

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – Iraqi security forces found a mass grave containing the remains of over 50 people believed to be killed by Daesh terrorists in Iraq's northern province of Kirkuk, the Iraqi military says. A federal police force found the bodies in one of the villages while hunting for Daesh terrorists near the provincial capital Kirkuk, some 250 km north of the Iraqi capital Baghdad, Yehia Rasool, the spokesman of the commander-in-chief of the Iraqi forces, said in a statement. "The mass grave contains the remains of more than 50 bodies of the people who were executed by the gangs of Daesh militants during their control of the area," Rasool said.

If you want to pray to Allah for better means of subsistence, then first give something in charity.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

## Bahrain's Opposition: Normalization With Zionists Unlawful, Lacks Nation's Support



Palestinians protest in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip against Israeli normalization deals with the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain on September 15, 2020, hours ahead of a signing ceremony at the White House.

MANAMA (Press TV) – Bahrain's main opposition group, the al-Wefaq National Islamic Society, has once again condemned normalization of ties between the Zionist and Manama regimes, stressing that the deal lacks the Bahraini nation's support and runs counter to the kingdom's constitution. In a series of tweets, al-Wefaq said

its Deputy Secretary-General Sheikh Hussein al-Daihi had contacted senior leaders of various Palestinian factions to assure them of the Bahraini people's unwavering support for the Palestinian cause in the face of the occupation. The al-Wefaq leader denounced the ruling Al Khalifah regime's ac-

tions and termed them as invalid and contrary to the principles of Bahraini people. Daihi further said that the Manama regime's steps "lack popular and constitutional acceptance" and are "beyond the popular will and approval." He said there is "a national consensus" on the rejection of any normal-

ization with the occupying regime. The Palestinian leaders, in turn, praised the Bahraini nation's firm stance towards the Palestinian cause and their support for the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. They said they were fully aware of the genuine position of Bahrainis, who oppose normalization with the occupying regime. Al-Wefaq has called for nationwide rallies in Bahrain on Friday in protest at the U.S.-brokered normalization agreements with the occupying regime. Over the past weeks, several anti-normalization demonstrations have been held in Bahrain, which has harshly suppressed dissent since 2011. On Sunday, Bahraini and Zionist officials signed a joint communiqué establishing full diplomatic relations. Manama and Tel Aviv regime are now expected to open embassies. An Israeli delegation flew on an El Al Israel Airlines charter flight from Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv, to Bahrain and was accompanied by U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin. On the same day, al-Wefaq called on the United Nations to intervene in the kingdom's unbridled push to deepen its relations with the Zionist regime as more than 95% of the people are against the normalization with the Zionists and amid the absence of any authority representing the people.

## Khashoggi Fiancée, Rights Group Sue Saudi Crown Prince Over Murder



Demonstrators dressed as Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and U.S. President Donald Trump protest against the grisly murder of U.S.-based Saudi dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi outside the White House on October 19, 2018.

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – The fiancée of slain Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi and a human rights group that he founded have filed a lawsuit in a U.S. court with saying that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (MBS) ordered him killed. Hatice Cengiz and Democracy for the Arab World Now (DAWN), a U.S.-based human rights group founded by Khashoggi, a legal resident of Virginia, filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. The civil lawsuit, which seeks unspecified damages against bin Salman, also named more than 20 other Saudis as defendants. It coincides with complications in the U.S.-Saudi relationship over the 2018 slaying of Khashoggi, Riyadh's human rights record, its role in Yemen's civil war and other issues. Khashoggi, who criticized the policies of the crown prince, Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler, in Washington Post columns, was killed and dismembered in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. He went there to obtain papers he needed to marry Cengiz, a Turkish citizen. The lawsuit said Khashoggi — who lived in the US in self-imposed

exile — was murdered "pursuant to a directive of defendant Mohammed bin Salman."

It added that MbS, his co-defendants and others carried out a plot to "permanently silence Mr. Khashoggi" no later than the summer of 2018 after discovering his "plans to utilize DAWN as a platform to espouse democratic reform and promote human rights."

A lawsuit was filed in August in a U.S. court by a former top Saudi intelligence official who accused the crown prince of sending a hit team to kill him in Canada, where he lives in exile. Both lawsuits were brought under a law allowing U.S. court actions against foreign officials over allegations of involvement in torture or extrajudicial killings. The American CIA spy agency and intelligence services of other countries have said the evidence altogether demonstrated bin Salman's culpability. Agnes Callamard, the UN special rapporteur for extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, who investigated Khashoggi's murder, has also said "credible evidence" links the Saudi crown prince to the killing of the Washington Post journalist and said he should be investigated.

## Ambush Claims Dozens Afghan Security Personnel, Visa Stampede Kills 15

KUNDUZ (Dispatches) – At least 25 Afghan security force personnel were killed in an ambush blamed on the Taliban, officials said Wednesday, as spiraling violence imperils the ongoing talks to put an end to decades of unrest. Security forces were attacked overnight Tuesday in Takhar province and fighting was ongoing, said Jawad Hejri, a spokesman for the governor, who put the death toll so far at 25. "The Taliban had taken positions in the houses around the area. They ambushed our forces who were there for an operation against the enemy," he said. Takhar provincial health director

Abdul Qayoum said 34 security personnel had been killed -- including the deputy police chief of the province. The Taliban did not directly take responsibility, but said their militants had "engaged the enemy" in Takhar to retaliate against security operations carried out against them. In another major incident, at least 15 people were killed in stampede among thousands of Afghans gathered near Pakistan's consulate on Tuesday as jostling broke out between people applying for visas, officials in the eastern city of Jalalabad said. An estimated 3,000 Afghans had

congregated on the open ground, usually used for sports or public gatherings, outside the consulate, waiting to collect tokens needed to apply for a visa, two provincial officials told Reuters a day after the tragedy. An Afghan news channel transmitted images of them holding passports aloft to secure a token. Images taken after the stampede showed scores of passports strewn across the ground. "The visa applicants jostled to secure their token from the consulate officials...the crowd got out of control, leading to a stampede," said an Afghan official. A survivor described to Reuters

how tempers frayed and the crowd became unruly in the lead up to the stampede. "I stood in the queue all night but at some point people got angry and started pushing, many of us fell on the ground," said Farmanullah, who goes by a single name. Eleven of the 15 victims were women, and several senior citizens were among more than a dozen injured, Sohrab Qaderi, a provincial council member, said. Tens of thousands of Afghans every year travel to neighboring Pakistan to secure medical treatment, education and jobs. The two countries share a nearly 2,600-kilometre border.

## Morocco Joins Saudi Boycott of Turkish Goods?

ANKARA (Dispatches) – A raft of restrictions imposed by Morocco on Turkish goods has abruptly severed economic ties between the two countries and raised suspicions that Rabat has joined a Saudi-led informal boycott. On 15 October, Morocco placed restrictions on products manufactured in Turkey and Turkish supermarket chains, as well as hiking taxes on imported Turkish goods by 90 percent. The move last week came a day before Morocco's cabinet approved a review of the free trade agreement signed between the kingdom and Turkey in 2004, which Royal Court spokesman Abdul Haq al-Marini said would "correct the imbalances in the trade balance between the two countries in recent years. According to Rabat, the agreement with Ankara, in force since 2006, has caused the Moroccan economy to suffer financial losses of nearly \$2bn a year. In

January, Moroccan Trade Minister Moulay Hafiz Elalamy informed parliament that the country was offering Turkey two options: either revise the agreement and find solutions or see it end. Saudi Arabia's boycott of Turkish products is unofficial, and was called for by Ajlan Al-Ajlan, the head of Saudi Arabia's Chambers of Commerce, a "a non-government group of private sector business officials", according to Reuters. A Saudi official told the newswire that "The official authorities in the kingdom have not placed any restrictions on Turkish goods". One anonymous Saudi businessman told Reuters that Saudi customs officials had informally told him not to import goods from Turkey. Turkish state news agency Anadolu commented on the boycott that "analysts are convinced that comments such as those made by Ajlan cannot be made without the "blessings" of the Saudi leadership, con-

sidering the kingdom's poor record in granting freedom of expression to its citizens." Nevertheless, the war of words has been increasing, with Turkish President Erdogan saying on October 1 of the Persian Gulf states that "It should not be forgotten that the countries in question did not exist yesterday, and probably will not exist tomorrow". Turkey's Justice and Development Party (AKP) deputy chairperson said days ago that Turkey was 'laughing' at the Saudi campaign to boycott Turkish goods. Speaking to Turkey's Channel 7 on Sunday, Numan Kurtulmus said, "We laugh at the fact that some countries are boycotting Turkey. Let them first learn to stand as an independent country. Let them stop standing around a magic sphere like that and holding hands with the special permission they will take from their big brothers. Let them stand on the nobility of their people".

## Zionist Warplanes Attack Gaza

GAZA STRIP (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime's warplanes have carried out an air raid striking different positions in the besieged Gaza Strip. The occupying regime's army spokesman Avichay Adrae claimed on Twitter that the raids late on Tuesday hit a purported tunnel belonging to the Palestinian resistance group Hamas. The tunnels are lifelines to take food and other essential items to the besieged impoverished territory. Palestinian witnesses on the ground rejected the Zionist regime's narrative, saying two agricultural areas in Khan Younis and Deir al-Balah were hit by three missiles. The impoverished and densely populated Gaza Strip has been under a crippling blockade by the Zionist regime since 2007. In another development, the Palestinian Authority urged the European Union to impose sanctions against Israel in response to the settlement construction in the Pal-

estonian territories, a senior official said on Wednesday. "Meetings will be held with European officials this week, in order to activate what was issued by European powers denouncing the Israeli settlement activities," Abdul Rahim al-Farra, the Palestinian ambassador to the EU, told the official Palestinian radio station Voice of Palestine. "We will demand the EU to impose sanctions against Israel because it has not stopped its settlement activities, and it only understands the language of sanctions," he added. Last Friday, major European powers issued a statement condemning the occupying regime's approval of building thousands of new settlement units in the occupied Palestinian territories. In a joint statement, the foreign ministers of Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Spain called on the regime to stop its settlement activities and abide by the UN Security Council Resolution 2334.