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Turkish PM: 75,000 Syrians have returned to their homes

Turkish PM says Syrians have returned to their normal lives in areas liberated from terrorist groups Daesh and PKK

By Kubra Chohan

ANKARA - Turkey's prime minister said on Friday that about 75,000 Syrians have returned to land liberated from the terrorist groups Daesh and the PKK, including substantial areas of Syria made safe by Turkish army operations. "Things are improving in Syria, slowly getting back on track. With [Operation] Euphrates Shield, we have cleared an area of 2,000 square kilometers from

Daesh and the PKK," Binali Yildirim told a migration and adaptation symposium in the capital Ankara. "Our 75,000 Syrian brothers have gone back to that area, settled down, and returned to their normal lives." Last year, Turkey launched Operation Euphrates Shield, a military campaign aimed at clearing Daesh terrorists from the Turkish-Syrian border region. Syria has only just begun to emerge from a devastating civil war that began... [MORE DETAILS](#)



US 'no longer involved' in M.East peace

ANKARA - Bilal Erdogan, deputy chairman of the Ilim Yayma Foundation's Board of Trustees, has said that by recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital, the U.S. removed itself from the peace process. "The Americans are no longer involved in the peace process," Bilal Erdogan told Anadolu Agency in an interview conducted in English. Describing the U.S. move as "unfortunate", he called on the Muslim countries to be united and "speak with one voice". "What [the U.S.] has done

has no value on the ground. It's not going to create a new status quo," said Bilal Erdogan, adding that the U.S. decision on Jerusalem proved that it was not "trustworthy". "This decision was already taken in 1995 and even when American Congress took this decision in 1995, it was against a United Nations Security Council decision from 1980," he said. "The Americans are betraying the very institution that they have helped create, the UN Security Council." [MORE DETAILS](#)



Erdogan touts UN steps on US Jerusalem move

By Fatih Hafiz Mehmet

ANKARA - Turkey's president Friday announced an initiative in the UN to counter the recent U.S. move recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Speaking from Istanbul via video to crowds in Turkey's central province of Konya, who were holding a rally for Jerusalem, Recep Tayyip Erdogan said: "We are starting initiatives at the UN to nullify America's decision on Jerusalem." Erdogan said the initiative first will be brought before the UN Security Council, which the U.S. is a permanent member of, and if it is vetoed

there, it will be brought to the UN General Assembly. "Separately, we are starting initiatives to increase [the number of] states who recognize the state of Palestine," he stressed. Erdogan also said that Muslim countries will start new funds to protect Palestinian families, "preventing Israel's seizure of neighborhoods, houses, and workplaces belonging to Muslims." On Dec. 6, U.S. President Donald Trump announced his decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and relocate the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to the holy city. [MORE DETAILS](#)

730 children among 6,700 slain Rohingya



By Merve Aydoğan

ANKARA - At least 9,000 Rohingya were killed in Myanmar's western Rakhine state from Aug. 25 to Sept. 24, a global humanitarian

organization said on Thursday. Doctors Without Borders published the figures after conducting surveys in refugee camps in Bangladesh. According to the report, the

deaths of 71.7 percent or 6,700 Rohingya were caused by violence. They include 730 children below the age of 5. It said that more than 647,000 Rohingya have crossed from

Myanmar into Bangladesh since Aug. 25 -- according to UN figures, the number is 656,000. The refugees are fleeing a military operation that has seen security forces and Buddhist mobs... [MORE DETAILS](#)

'Muslim world to unite under Turkey's leadership'

ANKARA - A Turkish lawmaker said on Friday that the Islamic world will unite under the leadership of Turkey. Speaking to Anadolu Agency, Orhan Atalay, a lawmaker of the ruling Justice and Development (AK) party from eastern

Ardahan province, called on all countries to recognize East Jerusalem as Palestine's capital. Atalay welcomed the decision by Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) to recognize East Jerusalem as Palestine's capital. "The decision by... [MORE DETAILS](#)