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Tuesday, May 8, 2018

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Int'l community 'apathetic' about Palestine: Erdogan

Turkish president says Palestinians are symbol of all oppressed people in the world

By Sibel Ugurlu

ANKARA - International community's indifference over the sufferings of Palestinians caused by Israeli attacks shows that no society has a safe future, the Turkish president said on Monday. Speaking at the International Mount of Olives Peace Awards at the Cemal Resit Rey Concert Hall in Istanbul,

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said, "Palestinians are the symbol of all oppressed people in the world because of the persecution, massacres and injustices they have been subjected to." Erdogan said the Palestine cause was not an exclusive issue of a nation or a city, adding that the future of humanity would be determined... [MORE DETAILS](#)



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan

French manifesto on Quran 'barbarism'

ANKARA - Turkish government ministers have blasted a French proposal to remove some verses from the Quran. On Twitter, Deputy Prime Minister Bekir Bozdag slammed the French proposal, which took the form of a manifesto signed by 300 French authors and politicians, saying that the signatories "are the Western versions of Daesh" terrorists,

suggesting that they too have distorted Islam. "It is literally barbarism and deviance that 300 people, including former President Nicolas Sarkozy and former Prime Minister Manuel Valls, prepared a declaration demanding some expressions in the Quran be removed," Numan Kurtulmus, Turkey's culture and tourism minister, said on Twitter overnight Sunday. [MORE DETAILS](#)



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Tunisian capital gets first woman mayor

TUNIS - In a first, a woman became mayor of the Tunisian capital. Suad Ibrahim of the Ennahda Movement party bagged 33.8 percent votes in Sunday's local elections. Her party won the local elections with 27.5 percent of the total votes, according to state-run broadcaster.

The voting process ended at 6.00 p.m. (1700GMT) with a low turnout of 33.7 percent, the High Election Commission said. According to unofficial results, Nidaa Tounes, the second largest party with 55 deputies in the parliament, ranked second in the elections with 22.5 percent... [MORE DETAILS](#)



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OIC concerned over Rohingya, Palestine issue

Muslim bloc condemns 'illegal policies and practices of Israel, the occupying power against the Palestinian people'

By Merve Aydogan

ANKARA - The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has expressed "deep concern" over the violence against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar, adding that

the violence "reached the level of ethnic cleansing". In a declaration on Sunday from the 45th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the

OIC also condemned "the illegal policies and practices of Israel, the occupying power against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories, including East Jerusalem." The OIC called "for the complete... [MORE DETAILS](#)

22 terrorists neutralized over last week

ANKARA - A total of 22 terrorists were "neutralized" as part of counter-terror operations across Turkey over the past week, the Interior Ministry said on Monday. Turkish authorities often use the word "neutralized" in their statements to imply that the terrorists in question either surrendered or were killed or captured. In a statement, the ministry said security forces had carried out 1,495 counter-terror operations from April 30-May 7.

The ministry specified that one of the terrorists was killed, 16 were captured, and five surrendered to authorities. During the operations, 150 people were arrested for allegedly aiding and abetting the PKK terrorist group and 94 others for their suspected links to the Daesh terrorist group. The PKK -- listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the U.S. and the EU -- resumed its armed campaign against... [MORE DETAILS](#)



'US Embassy' signs spotted in Jerusalem