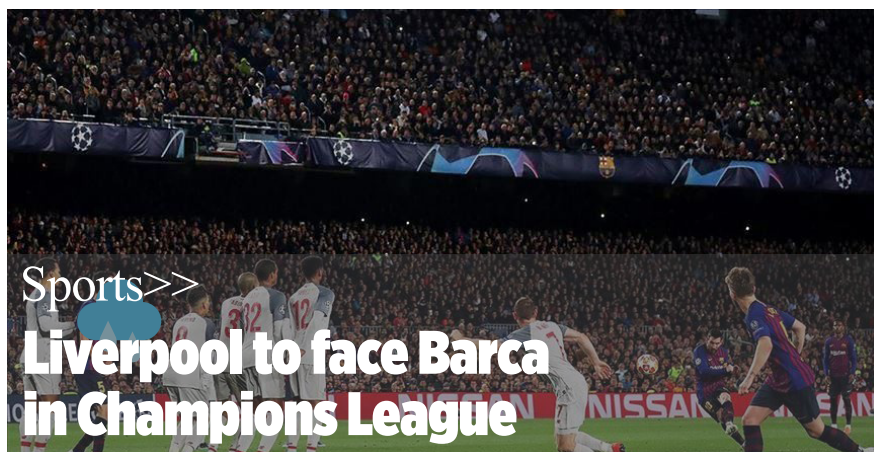




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Wednesday, May 8, 2019

 WEATHER / ANKARA  
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# Report: China destroyed dozens of Muslim sites

*Investigation by The Guardian and Bellingcat provides satellite evidence of large-scale destruction*

Ahmet Gürhan Kartal

LONDON - More than two dozen religious sites including mosques in China's northwestern Xinjiang province have been partly or completely demolished since 2016, a British daily claimed Tuesday. An article by The Guardian said a joint investigation by the newspaper and the Bellingcat website found new evidence of large-scale mosque razing in the autonomous region where Muslim minorities have long-faced religious repression. It said the investigation... [MORE DETAILS](#)



## Istanbul revote 'major step for democracy'

Fatih Hafız Mehmet

ANKARA - Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Tuesday called the country's top election body's decision for a do-over election in Istanbul an "important step in strengthening Turkey's democracy". "We see this decision of the Turkish Supreme Election Council (YSK),

which will remove the shadow over Istanbul elections, an important step in strengthening Turkey's democracy," Erdogan said during his address to lawmakers of his ruling Justice and Development (AK) Party at the parliament group meeting in the capital Ankara. His remarks came a day after Turkey's... [MORE DETAILS](#)

## Turkish agency to help needy families in Gaza

Safiye Karabacak

GAZA CITY - Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) will provide fast-breaking meals (iftar) during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan to 1,000 people in the Gaza Strip every day, it said Tuesday.

TIKA will also distribute thousands of food packages to needy residents of the village of Hajar al-Dik in the southeastern Gaza Strip. Established in 1992, Turkey's government-run aid agency is responsible for implementing the country's developmental cooperation... [MORE DETAILS](#)



## Ebola death toll in DR Congo rises to 979

Alaattin Dogru

DAKAR - The death toll from the contagious Ebola virus in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has risen to 979 since the start of an outbreak last July, according to an official statement on Tuesday.

The Health Ministry of the Central African country said among 1,572 cases of reported hemorrhagic fever, some 1,506 were confirmed to be Ebola cases. Nearly 90 people are being treated for the disease... [MORE DETAILS](#)

## Turkish Red Crescent hosts iftar in Idlib



IDLIB - The Turkish Red Crescent offered this Ramadan's first fast-breaking meal, or iftar, in opposition

held Idlib in northern Syria on Monday. The humanitarian group will serve meal to more than 7,000 civilians in Idlib on

daily basis and it will also deliver iftar to civilians at 15 orphanages and six camps, according to Red... [MORE DETAILS](#)

## Myanmar frees Reuters journalists

Kyaw Ye Lynn

YANGON - Two Reuters journalists in Myanmar who had been jailed for exposing a massacre of Rohingya were freed early Tuesday after

spending more than 500 days in prison. Wa Lone, 32, and Kyaw Soe Oo, 28, were among 6,520 inmates released under a third round of pardons by President Win Myint to... [MORE DETAILS](#)