



# PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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## ISLAM IS THE MOST POPULAR RELIGION FOR UNDER 30s IN CHINA

*July 9, 2015* ChristianToday.com reported: "Islam has the largest number of young believers in China, new research has found, despite the growth of Christianity in the country and an atheist government. The China Religion Survey 2015, released by the National Survey Research Centre at Renmin University of China, found that 22.4 per cent of Muslims in China are under 30, with Catholicism following closely behind at 22 per cent aged 30 or under.



Professor of Buddhist studies at Renmin University, Wei Dedong, told the Global Times that 'Islam tends to have a younger demographic'.

'Most believers of Islam belong to ethnic minority groups and it is common for a woman to give birth to several children,' he said. 'The children would also become Muslims while it is very rare to have an adult converting to Islam.'

The survey, which involved interviews from over 4,000 religious sites between 2013 and 2015, also found that Buddhism and Taoism are more popular with the older generations, and Buddhism has the largest following over all. Protestantism, however, has the most places of worship..."

## AT GAZA RALLY, HAMAS CLAIMS IT HAS PRODUCED NEW MISSILES

*July 9, 2015* The Times of Israel reports: "At a late-night rally Wednesday marking one year since last summer's war in Gaza, Hamas's armed wing boasted that they had produced improved, new locally made missiles. Several hundred people crowded into a central Gaza City square after the traditional fast-breaking meal during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan for a rally by Hamas's armed wing, the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades.

Brigades members, their faces covered with black keffiyeh scarves, stood in front of what appeared to be models of two missiles about three to four meters (9 to 13 feet) in length aboard the bed of a military truck. Fathers held their children on their shoulders and brigades members lifted their weapons in the air as spokesman Abu Obeida gave a speech, his face covered as usual in a red keffiyeh. Abu Obeida said two new locally made missiles represented a 'qualitative leap' forward, but did not provide details..."

## IRAN'S 'DEATH TO ISRAEL DAY' COINCIDES WITH NUKE DEAL DEADLINE

*July 8, 2015* Arutz Sheva reported: "It has been said that truth is stranger than fiction, and indeed it would be hard to imagine scripting the signing of a nuclear deal with the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism on the very day that this regime holds an annual global protest calling for the destruction of the Jewish state. And yet that plot twist is fully set to happen, as Iran's 'Death to Israel Day,' officially known as Quds Day or Jerusalem Day, will take place this Friday July 10 - bizarrely timed to coincide with the newly re-extended deadline for a final deal on Iran's nuclear program.

American officials said Tuesday that the latest extension on the deadline will be the last, indicating that there is a great likelihood that calls to destroy Israel will echo Iranian celebrations of a deal that Israel and other critics see as paving the Islamic regime's path to a nuclear arsenal. Quds Day is held annually on the final Friday of the Muslim fast month of Ramadan.

It was instituted on August 7, 1979 by then-Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini just after the Islamic Revolution, as a day of solidarity against the 'usurper Israel.' Each year the protest - which is held in Tehran and around the world in events that reportedly are largely organized and funded by Iran - is punctuated by shrill calls of 'Death to Israel,' often accompanied by a refrain of 'Death to America.'..."

## EGYPT: NEARLY 250 ISIS TERRORISTS KILLED IN SINAI, OVER 60 ARRESTED

*July 8, 2015* YnetNews.com reported: "While the worst of the battles between Islamic State militants and the Egyptian army is likely over, fighting on the ground continues on Wednesday. The Egyptians claimed they lost 'only' 17 soldiers over the past week, while killing hundreds of jihadists, and have provided a detailed map of the fighting in northern Sinai.

According to reports from Cairo, most of the fighting is now centered in the Sheikh Zuweid area, not far from the Israel-Gaza-Egypt border. Over the past two days, the Egyptian army continued its airstrikes against the militants. On Wednesday morning, the Egyptian army reported it killed two terrorists and arrested 13 after they were seen in central Sinai. Searches of the area where the terrorists were killed found weapons and motorcycles.

On Tuesday, the Egyptian army's spokesman said 241 terrorists have been killed, four wanted men and 49 other suspects have been arrested, and the army destroyed 26 vehicles and 18 motorcycles used by the militants. In addition, 16 explosives the jihadists planned to use against Egyptian troops have been destroyed, along with four of jihadists' posts in Sinai..."

## RUSSIA TO LAUNCH LARGE-SCALE SPACE PROJECTS WITH CHINA

*July 5, 2015* SpaceDaily.com reported: "The joint Russian-Chinese talks entailed implementing joint projects in the field, as well as the willingness to synchronize mutual hardware platforms and technological interfaces.

"The Chinese side expresses interest in collaborating to create manned Lunar exploration infrastructure," Denis Kravchenko, deputy general director of the United Rocket and Space Corporation (URSC), said. Plans to set up an aerospace alliance to conduct joint manned space missions, including to the Moon, emerged late last month. In April, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin announced plans to create a permanent manned Lunar station in collaboration with China.

"China is willing to develop cooperation in engine building [and] urges to consider the idea of setting up joint production. We are more interested in commercialization. We intend to sell engines," Kravchenko told Sputnik.

Increased Russian-Chinese cooperation in space research coincides with the United States' increasing concern over the vulnerability of its space assets. US Deputy Secretary of Defense Robert Work said last Tuesday space must now be considered "contested operational domain" in the "unlikely event we should have a clash of arms." To centralize US space awareness, intelligence and warning capabilities, Work announced the launch of an interagency Space Operation Center in the next six months. The Eurasian political, economic and military Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), with Russia and China as its founding members, came out with a joint declaration last year opposing an arms race in space.

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### **UK SPY AGENCY WARNS: BIGGEST TERROR THREAT IN A DECADE**

*July 6, 2015* Breitbart.com reported: "National security agency MI5 and counter terror police chiefs have met to discuss the possibility of raising the UK's threat level to 'critical', meaning an attack is imminent. The revelation comes just 24-hours before the nation stops to remember the dead from the 7/7 terrorist attack in 2005 in which 52 London commuters were killed.

Threats from the Islamic State to attack the West during Ramadan have prompted the re-think on national security. The top level meeting follows the terror bombing in Tunisia that claimed the lives of 30 holidaying Britons.

The Daily Express reports a 'well-placed security source' revealed that security chiefs were homing in on three areas of particular concern; East London, the West Midlands and Greater Manchester..."

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### **GOODBYE WASHINGTON, HELLO MOSCOW? SAUDI ARABIA FINDS FRIENDLY FACE IN PUTIN**



*July 5, 2015* The Christian Science Monitor reported: "As two of the world's biggest oil producers, Russia and Saudi Arabia working together have the potential to dominate the globe's petroleum markets. So far, that hasn't happened, as seemingly irreconcilable differences – and particularly US-Saudi relations – have kept them apart.

But all the smiles and deal-making last month between Vladimir Putin and Mohammed bin Salman, the youthful and ambitious Saudi deputy crown prince and defense minister, has some claiming that the two energy giants, driven together by geopolitical crisis, may be set for a much closer relationship.

Some experts perceive signs of an 'emerging partnership' driven by shifting global winds, in which Saudi cash helps Moscow dodge Western sanctions, while Russian arms, engineering expertise, and diplomatic support assist the energetic new Saudi king to wean his country from dependency on an increasingly uncooperative US..."



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### **FORMER NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR: ISIS HERE TO STAY**

*July 5, 2015* Arutz Sheva reported: "Developments in the Sinai desert have brought concerns of an Islamic State (ISIS) attack on Israel on Sunday, after a rocket on Friday was fired into Israel by the group along its southern borders. Channel 20 spoke to Gen. Yaakov Amidror, former National Security Advisor and expert at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies (BESA) over the issue.

'ISIS is strengthening throughout the Middle East,' he said. 'We see that they have managed to become more organized in the Sinai Peninsula, making the war against them longer and more difficult [...] but I don't think that this [its presence in the Sinai - ed.] has redefined their presence in the Middle East.'

Amidror also noted that no one is underestimating ISIS, as Western countries have with other terror groups in the past.

'I think that people understand that ISIS is the most serious and meaningful threat,' he stated. 'It's expected to stay around for a long time. It will be very difficult to destroy it.'..."