

## **Outcry over Israeli plans to seize 70 buildings of Palestinian residents in Hebron**

RAMALLAH: Seventy buildings owned, lived in and used by Palestinians in Hebron city for decades are likely to be confiscated and have their ownership transferred to Israeli settlers in the city, according to human rights activists.

Palestinian human rights sources expressed to Arab News their concern about the alleged Israeli government plan, which will apparently be carried out under the supervision of the Israeli army.

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## **At least 400 women reportedly on second week of hunger strike in notorious Iraqi jail**

DUBAI: Hundreds of women convicted of being members of Daesh and serving long jail terms in a high-security prison in Iraq have reportedly been on hunger strike since April 24.

At least 400 female prisoners, jailed for between 15 years and life in Baghdad's notorious Rusafa prison, are said to be refusing food in protest against their convictions and poor prison conditions, the BBC reported on Friday.

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## **Lebanon's finance minister questioned in Central Bank probe**

BEIRUT: A European judicial team questioned Lebanon's caretaker finance minister on Friday in an investigation related to corruption probes of the country's Central Bank governor, officials said.

The questioning is part of a probe by a delegation from France, Germany, and Luxembourg, now on its third visit to Lebanon to interrogate suspects and witnesses in the case. Central Bank Gov. Riad Salameh is being investigated abroad over several financial crimes and the laundering of some \$330 million.

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## UN committee on Palestinian rights elects Malaysian permanent representative as rapporteur

AMMAN: The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People on Wednesday unanimously elected Ahmad Faisal Muhamad, permanent representative of Malaysia to the UN, as its vice chair and rapporteur, the Jordan News Agency reported.

The UN General Assembly established the CEIRPP in 1975 to recommend a programme to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their rights to self-determination without external interference, national independence and sovereignty, and to return to their homes and properties from which they had been displaced.

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## Sudan conflict 'likely to be protracted,' top US intelligence official says

WASHINGTON: The conflict between Sudan's military and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces is "likely to be protracted" because both sides believe they can prevail militarily and have few incentives to negotiate, the top US intelligence official said on Thursday.

Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines presented the bleak US intelligence assessment of the fighting that erupted on April 15 in testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee.