



UK migration hits

Gunman





US confident IS cyber jihadist killed in Syria strike

The United States is confident of having killed a top Islamic State cyber hacker and recruiter in a drone strike in Syria this week, US authorities said

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With violent racial attacks on the rise, should gun-control laws be made stricter?

> ○ Yes ○ No ○ Can't Say





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Riyadh

Deaths from the MERS coronavirus have surged in Saudi Arabia ahead of the hajj pilgrimage, with 19 fatalities recorded in a week, according to local health ministry statistics.

A total of 502 people have died in the kingdom since the virus first appeared in 2012, according to updated figures posted on the ministry's website, including 19, all Saudis, since last Thursday.

The number of MERS infections has also surged to 1,171 cases, the website said.

A surge in infections forced health authorities to shut the emergency ward at a main hospital in Riyadh

last week, after at least 46 people, including medical staff, contracted the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome.

Saudi Arabia, preparing to host more than two million Muslims from all over the world next month for the annual hajj to the holy sites in Mecca and Medina, is the country worst hit by the coronavirus.

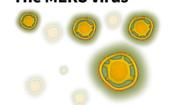
However, Bahrain was confirmed free of the coronavirus last week when Chief of Disease Control Section Public Health, Ministry of Health Dr Adel Al Sayed assured that more than 1,300 suspected cases for MERS-COV in the Kingdom were

tested negative. He also highlighted the Public health lab fully equipped to diagnose the disease.

MERS is considered deadlier but less infectious cousin of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) virus that appeared in Asia in 2003 and killed hundreds of people, mostly in China.

Its symptoms can include fever, coughing and shortness of breath. MERS, which is believed to originate in camels, has no approved vaccines.

The MERS virus



MERS-CoV

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus:

Family of common viruses that affect humans and animals, including the SARS virus which killed nearly 800 worldwide in 2003

First detected: April 2012



Not seen in humans before

Source: WHO

Main symptoms

Acute, serious respiratory illness

- Fever, cough, shortness of breath, breathing difficulties pneumonia, gastrointestinal symptoms, kidney failure
- Clusters of human-to-human transmission have been found. but no sustained community transmission so far observed

