

Beat: Vips

## 2 MILLION PILGRIMS Arrive in MECCA to Perform HAJJ

### Pilgrims To The Holy City of MECCA

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**USPA NEWS** - With the Annual Hajj Pilgrimage having Officially Started, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has announced on August 31, the Arrival of 2 Million Pilgrims to the Holy City of Mecca. Saudi Arabia "shoulders the responsibility of organising and conducting the pilgrimage", under the supervision of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz, as well as Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman.

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This year, Pilgrims have come from Over Dozens of Countries. Among Other Nationalities, Saudi Arabia has to date welcomed around :

- \* 184,000 pilgrims from Pakistan
- \* 170,000 pilgrims from India
- \* 127,000 pilgrims from Bangladesh
- \* 90,000 pilgrims from Turkey
- \* 1,200 pilgrims from Malaysia
- \* 23,500 pilgrims from Russia
- \* 12,700 pilgrims from China
- \* 6,000 pilgrims from the Philippines
- \* 3,500 pilgrims from South Africa

About 94 % of Pilgrims have arrived by air. In order to reduce Congestion and facilitate Smooth Passenger Movement, the Airports in Jeddah and Madinah have built Dedicated Terminals for Pilgrims.

Some Pilgrims travel by Bus, Minivan and Car. This year, more than 30,000 Vehicles have arrived. There are over 17,000 Special Buses operated by more than 22,000 Drivers that Transport Pilgrims within the Venue. During Hajj, over 2.64 million Meals are distributed daily. More than 2,000 Saudi Red Crescent Authority personnel have been deployed in Mecca, Madinah and other Holy Sites to provide Ambulance Services for Pilgrims. According to the Saudi Ministry of Health, more than 2,100 Free Medical Procedures have already been performed on Pilgrims.

Beyond the Impressive Numbers and the Logistical Endeavour that managing the Logistics around Hajj represents, the Pilgrimage is both a deeply Individual and a Communal Spiritual Moment, as Muslims, regardless of their Age and Background, come together to observe their Faith.

Hajj concluded on September 4.

Source :Ministry of Culture and Information, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

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