

# *Toll from Hajj Stampede Outside Mecca Reaches 2,000*

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Mecca, September 25 (RHC)-- The death toll from a deadly stampede during Hajj pilgrimage rituals in Mina, outside the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia, has soared to about 2,000, says the head of Iran's Hajj and Pilgrimage Organization, citing Saudi sources. The incident occurred on Thursday, after huge pilgrim processions were joined in their course, leading to the catastrophic entanglement.

It has been reported that the convoy of Prince Mohammad bin Salman Al Saud, the son of Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz, had arrived at the site, forcing the pilgrims to change their original directions.

In Tehran, Iranian officials said four committees have been tasked to investigate the latest situation of the Iranian pilgrims killed and injured in the incident.

He said two planes are ready to transfer the bodies of the killed Iranian pilgrims to their home country after legal procedures are completed, which could be September 28th or 29th.

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