# Over 1,000 Pilgrims Die in Extreme Heat During Hajj Pilgrimage in Mecca



More than 1,000 pilgrims have died during the annual Hajj pilgrimage in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, amidst extreme temperatures that soared to 51.8 degrees Celsius. Approximately 1.8 million Muslims participated this year, fulfilling a religious duty for those able to undertake the journey at least once in their lifetime.

Saudi authorities have not yet commented on the official death toll, but reports from around ten countries suggest 1,081 deaths, with significant losses reported from Egypt, India, and Indonesia. Pilgrims from Pakistan have recorded at least 58 deaths, while Indonesia has reported a death toll of 183. Causes of death are primarily attributed to heat-related illnesses.

At the Emergency Complex in Al-Muaisem, relatives have gathered to identify and claim the bodies of deceased loved ones. An Egyptian man expressed his distress upon discovering his mother's death.

Despite extensive efforts and significant investments by Saudi Arabia in improving crowd control and safety measures, the sheer number of pilgrims presents ongoing challenges. The Hajj continues to be one of the world's largest religious gatherings, and the event this year highlights the difficulties in ensuring the well-being of the masses in extreme weather conditions. The next few years will see the pilgrimage take place in cooler months, potentially mitigating the current heat-related risks.