

## No cancel for Pilgrimage over swine flu: Egypt

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Egyptian Tourism Minister Zohair Garana

Undersecretary of State for Tourism and General Director of Tourist Pilgrimage in Egypt Usama al Ashri confirmed that Egypt's ministry has no plan for canceling pilgrimage or deferring Umrah (minor pilgrimage) this year.

He also indicated that the ministry will do that, if only instructed by the concerned Egyptian and Saudi authorities.

Internationally, swine flu infected cases in Saudi Arabia have reached 89 cases, after the Saudi Ministry of Health has reported 8 new cases.

Meanwhile, the Swiss RUSH group for medications declared that it has released a program for distributing the strong anti virus "Tami Flu" to the developing countries, with low price, if the virus becomes a pandemic.

An international workshop, organized by the Saudi Ministry of Health, considered that the spreading rate of the virus during the pilgrimage and Umrah seasons is semi-dangerous, although it has advised the elderly people and pregnant ladies to postpone their pilgrimage rituals in order to avoid infection.

Egyptian Health Ministry announced two newly swine flu infected cases. This rises the number of swine flu human cases in Egypt up to 69 so far

The fevers hospitals in 5 Egypt's governorates have isolated 14 bird flu suspected cases, where blood samples have been taken from them and sent to the central laboratories.

A Spokesman of the Egyptian Health Ministry Abdel Rahman Shahin said that 8 cases have been tested with completely negative results, and as a result they have been released from the hospital.

He also added that the case no. 68 is a 21 year old Egyptian girl from Alexandria city, who is positively-related to one of the previous cases.

Shahin added that the girl has been isolated in a hospital in Alexandria. The second case is a 22 year old Egyptian student girl from Al-Sharqiyah governorate, and she has been isolated in a hospital in Cairo.

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