**Sports News**

**Aguero bags fastest five-goal haul in Premier League**

Sergio Aguero has made Premier League history after scoring five goals in 20 minutes during Manchester City’s 6-1 win over Newcastle United on Saturday. The Argentine netted the English top-flight’s fastest-ever quintuple, besting Jermain Defoe – who netted five in Tot-tenham’s 9-1 win over Wigan Athletic in 2009 – by 16 minutes.

Aguero’s first goal leveled the score at 1-1 in the 42nd minute, with his fifth coming in the 62nd minute to round off the rout.

The only other players to hit five goals in a single match are Alan Shearer for Newcastle, and Andy Cole and Dimitar Berbatov for Manchester United, with the former netting his tally in 54 minutes, and the latter pair both scoring their goals in 68 minutes.

Luis Enrique: Barcelona must get better

Barcelona coach Luis Enrique has promised his team will improve after a 2-1 defeat away to Sevilla on Saturday.

Despite being without superstar Lionel Messi, who is out for approximately two months due to a knee injury, Barça’s defending supporters and Spain’s infamous unforgiving football press are unlikely to be kind to Luis Enrique and his beaten players following their narrow reverse at Estadio Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan.

“Nobody can be happy with things when Barça lose – the objective is to get better,” Luis Enrique said.

Chelsea’s downfall continues

Chelsea’s Premier League downfall continues after suffering a disappointing 3-1 defeat to Southampton at Stamford Bridge on Saturday night.

All signs are grim, but few collapse quite as unexpectedly or as quickly as this one. It’s only five months since Chelsea was crowned champion and it seemed Jose Mourinho’s side might be about to establish a dynasty. But in the aftermath of a fourth league defeat of the season, with Chelsea 10 points off the top of the table and with a defensive record better only than Newcastle, Mourinho looks weirdly impotent.

**Neymar to miss Brazil qualifiers**

Brazil will be without captain Neymar for October’s World Cup qualifiers after the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) rejected attempts to overturn his suspension.

The Barcelona forward was hit with a four-match ban following his red card against Colombia in June’s Copa America. He served half of the suspension by sitting out of Brazil’s remaining matches in that tournament, against Venezuela and Paraguay.

What is the benefit of the current economic depression in Kurdistan? What is the best decision that an investor can take right now for a long term investment that could yield a fourfold return on investment in around three years time? There is a rule in entrepreneurship that says the higher the risk the greater the profit. What is the risk and what is the profit? The risk right now is to invest in Kurdistan in the real estate sector even though it might be common sense not to do so. Due to the current situation in the real estate market, land plots are as low in price as they can be around $250 to $300 per square meter for an up market residential piece of land which sold for around $700 just less than two years ago.

There would be a considerable profit on the real estate investment. The return would be big because Kurdistan has considerable crude oil reserves. Sooner or later crude oil prices are going to shoot up to near the one hundred dollar per barrel price because supply is limited and in the long run demand will meet or exceed supply. This is more certain because the big technological advances there is still no real substitute to crude oil as an attractive source of energy. As the economic and political situation improves in Kurdistan, real estate prices will shoot up again to possibly fourfold its current price. The jump would be this high because of the imminent demise of ISIS in the near future. This will catapult consumer confidence in the market.

The Kurdish economic boom is now coming after the bust that is happening right now. The wise investor like the American John Templeton will buy now while things are cheap and then sell at four or five times the original price!

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**A Visit to Eden after the Fall:**

**Yazidis Resume Their Pilgrimage Festival at Lalish**

On Wednesday, 23 September 2015, I joined a steady stream of barefoot pilgrims making their way to the shrines of Lalish, the most sacred site in the Yazidi religion. It was the first day of the Yazidis’ three-day Eidha Hejya, or Pilgrimage Festival. Last year’s Eidha Hejya was cancelled in the aftermath of the massacres at Sinjar and the ongoing captivity of several thousand Yazidi women and children in the Islamic State’s self-declared caliphate. With Lalish’s location a mere thirty miles from the front lines, the security situation was simply too volatile and the community also felt a need to respect those in mourning by not observing the traditional festivities. But now, in a clear show of formidable resilience, the Yazinis, the chieftain of their annual gathering at Lalish. Tucked in a fold of the mountains between Sheikhan and Dohuk, the valley of Lalish is a narrow ravine of dappled shade and age-worn stones. To preserve the sanctity of the place, it is forbidden to hunt animals or fell trees in the area, and all who enter the valley must first remove their shoes. This valley, for the Yazidis, is the site of God’s first garden, the centerpiece of the Yazidi’s Eden. Here primeval oaks, olive and mulberry trees form a natural bower for a cluster of mauseleums, sleeping quarters, and courtyards. Over the treetops rise the Yazidis’ distinctive spires of white, fumed cypress that represent the sun’s rays descending to the four corners of the earth. Among the ancient stones the chieftain of the faithful mingles with the gurgles of springs and streams. The air is fresh, tinged only with the smell of olive oil for the wicks and lamps, which the Yazidis light on the stones of the courtyards and in niches.

“There can be, I think, no spot in the world so beautiful or so peaceful,” Agatha Christie wrote of her visit to Lalish in the 1930s. “All is calm and gentle and peaceful there.” Her description remains a fitting one even today.

The mood among the pilgrims at the revived Eidha Hejya was subdued but not somber. Reversely, they kissed the ancient trees, doorposts, and thresholds of the shrines. Thresholds, in particular, the Yazidis hold as sacrosanct, for entryways are dwelling places of angels. I watched as the devout knelt silently at the flagstones where they believe the scales of the Final Judgment will stand. Yet, on a more playful note, they also made wishes by tossing handkerchiefs and tying knots in colorful silks; some children circled the catafalque of Sheikh Adi, their foremost saint, in a manner that can only be described as skipping; families spread picnics in the shade; and others scattered sweets around a freshly baptized toddler.

A natural fountain called Kaniya Spî (White Spring) is the site of baptisms and ritual cleansing at Lalish. The source on the face of those emerging from the baptismery seemed to defy the horrors of Islamic State. The apocalyptic scenes at Sinjar last year, beamed abroad via international media, were worlds away now. The White Spring gushes forth from Mount Hezret — the very name of which comnotes “longing” or remembrance. One can imagine the heartbreak faithful turning toward this oasis of leafy tranquility, longing for an escape to some prelapsarian era before vast swathes of their historic homeland fell to the ravages of the Islamic State.

I was also keenly aware of how much more the US could have done to protect the Yazidis’ villages. The Yazidis’ present situation remains precarious. As international headlines have plummeted through the past year, their culture is teetering on the brink of extinction. Their threat of genocide and cultural annihilation is very real, but the resumption of Eidha Hejya at Lalish displays the Yazidis’ enduring vigor. Their sliver of earthly Paradise is not yet lost.

By Tyler Fisher