

**KENYAN PM RAILA ON 3-DAY VISIT TO ISRAEL**  
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TEL AVIV, Nov 14 (NNN-KBC) -- Prime Minister Raila Odinga joined hundreds of other Kenyan pilgrims who have travelled to the State of Israel to visit Biblical sites, ahead of his planned meetings with political leaders of the country beginning Sunday.

On Saturday, with Israel virtually shut down as majority of the people marked the religious holiday of the Sabbath, Mr Odinga visited River Jordan, the place where Jesus is reported to have been baptized.

He later visited the town of Capernaum and the Sea of Galilee, two areas where Jesus is said to have concentrated most of his teaching and performed miracles, chasing out demons from the sick and multiplying fish for followers.

Mr Odinga, accompanied by his wife Ida, and MPs Charles Kilonzo and Magerer Langat, described the visit to the sites as humbling, saying it was a journey of renewal.

In Capernaum, the PM spent time at a fifth century synagogue built at what is said to have been the home of disciple Simon Peter. Traditions say it is the same synagogue where Jesus chased demons out of a man.

Jesus had moved to the city on the shores of the Sea of Galilee and began preaching there after learning that John the Baptist, who had been preaching in the area, had been arrested.

The PM later visited the town of Nazareth where he joined hundreds of other Kenyan pilgrims at a church built at the site where Angel Gabriel is said to have announced to Mary that she would give birth to Jesus.

The Kenyan pilgrims were mostly from Central Kenya and Maasai land.

The PM is set to hold talks with the President of Israel Mr Shimon Peres later on Sunday and lay a wreath in Jerusalem to honour the martyrs and heroes of the Holocaust.

On Monday, he will also meet the Prime Minister of Israel Mr Benjamin Netanyahu. --  
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