

Palmyra's ancient ruins in hands of IS



Islamic State (IS) militants have taken control of ancient Palmyra, one of the archaeological jewels of the Middle East, raising fears the Syrian world heritage site could face destruction

May 20: Government troops withdraw from Tadmur, modern town next to ruins of Palmyra after IS take al-Sukhanah

PALMYRA: Built on site of ancient caravan route, ruins are unique combination of Roman and Persian architectural styles



Temple of Bel:
Most important religious buildings of 1st Century in East



200m
650ft

Local museum:
Contains busts and reliefs from Palmyra's many funerary monuments

Diocletian reconstructed walls

Theatre

Diocletian baths

Agora

Senate House

Monumental Arch:
Carved sculptural treatment is outstanding example of Palmyrene art

