

# IS destroys ancient Palmyra ruins

Islamic State (IS) militants have blown up the Baalshamin temple in Palmyra, as the destruction of the archaeological jewels of the Middle East escalates

**May 2015: IS captures Tadmur, city close to ruins of Palmyra**

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



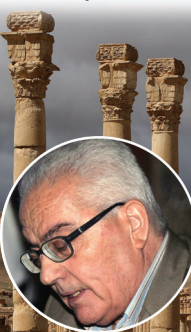
**Temple of Baalshamin:**  
Destroyed



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



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



**Khaled al-Asaad:**  
Archaeologist  
beheaded  
Aug 18

