

New Twist in Khashoggi Mystery: MBS Spoke to Journalist Moments Before His Death, Report Claims

By [RT News](#)

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Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman phoned Jamal Khashoggi and tried to convince him to return to Riyadh, just moments before the dissident journalist was killed in the kingdom's Istanbul consulate, a new report claims.

The prince contacted Khashoggi shortly after he was detained inside the consulate, Turkish pro-government paper Yeni Safak [reported](#) on Sunday, citing its own sources. According to the publication, Mohammad bin Salman, known in the West by his initials MBS, attempted to convince the journalist over the phone to return to his homeland, Saudi Arabia. Once close with the Saudi elites, Khashoggi fled the kingdom last year in fear of possible prosecution.

'Nothing happens in Saudi Arabia without MbS [Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman] knowing it' - Sen. Lindsey Graham [#Khashoggi](https://t.co/UPevrEPq1T)

— RT (@RT_com) [October 22, 2018](#)

The journalist declined the prince's offer to fly to Riyadh, thinking he would be arrested and killed there, and was then murdered by the Saudi hit-team after the talk with MBS ended, the paper wrote.

More than two weeks have passed since Khashoggi disappeared after entering the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, Turkey. Saudi officials claim that he was killed in a "fist fight" which broke out in the consulate building. The officials have yet to provide details on the incident and are still determining where Khashoggi's body is.

Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir [stated](#) earlier that Khashoggi's death was a "tremendous mistake" and MBS was "not aware" of his killing.

Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir on Jamal Khashoggi: "We want to make sure that we know what happened and we want to make sure that those responsible be held to account." <https://t.co/ZNhIXzUPC9pic.twitter.com/YjrhiGzKBe>

— Fox News (@FoxNews) [October 21, 2018](#)

Meanwhile, Turkey is conducting a separate investigation into the case. Ankara insists that the Saudis had planned to murder the journalist and dispatched an assassination squad to take him out. Turkish leader Recep Tayyip Erdogan vowed to reveal further details soon.

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