



**ICT**  
International Institute  
for Counter-Terrorism  
With the Support of Keren Daniel

# ICT Jihadi Monitoring Group

## PERIODIC REVIEW

### Bimonthly Report

## Summary of Information on Jihadist Websites

The Second Half of July 2016

## Highlights

This report summarizes notable events discussed on jihadist Web forums during the second half of July 2016. Following are the main points covered in the report:

- Sheikh **Ayman al-Zawahiri**, the leader of **Al-Qaeda**, calls on jihad fighters to kidnap Western civilians and army personnel in order to use them as bargaining chips for the release of Muslim prisoners from jails in the West and other countries. According to him, this should serve as a guideline for jihad fighters. In addition, he calls on jihad fighters in Libya and in the Maghreb in general to help their fellow Muslims in Egypt in order to topple al-Sisi's regime. In addition, al-Zawahiri shared a eulogy in memory of jihad leaders in Somalia, the Caucasus and Egypt, and in memory of the prominent Salafi-jihadist proponent, Salem Mirjan.
- **Al-Qaeda** condemns the Pakistani government for the imprisonment of three Muslim women, the wives of former Al-Qaeda members, including two of the daughters of **Ayman al-Zawahiri**, the leader of Al-Qaeda. The organization disputes that negotiations for their release failed because of US dictates, and emphasizes that the Pakistani government and army are responsible for their welfare and treatment.
- **Abu Mohammad al-Julani**, the leader of **Al-Nusra Front** (Al-Qaeda's branch in Syria), declares his decision to cut ties with any external entity while hinting at the organization's split from Al-Qaeda in an effort to maintain unity among the ranks of the muajhideen in Syria, and announces the establishment of a new organization under his leadership named **Jabhat Fatah al-Sham**. The announcement is accepted by the Al-Qaeda leadership. **Ahmad Hasan Abu al-Khayr**, deputy to the leader of **Al-Qaeda**, notes that - following a thorough examination of the political and military circumstances as well as the difficulties and challenges in Syria - it is preferable to maintain unity among the ranks of the mujahideen and, therefore, al-Julani's step is understandable and welcomed.
- **Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent** calls on Muslims in Kashmir to attack Indian security forces using various means, such as Molotov cocktails and knives, and to adopt the way of jihad of Burhan Wani (1984-2016), the leader of the "Mujahideen Party" (a Salafi-jihadist faction in Kashmir) who was killed in clashes with Indian security forces in July 2016.

- As a result of the stabbing attack in Nice, and as part of the ongoing effort to encourage “lone wolf” attacks by Muslims in the West, **Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula** publishes a guidebook for Muslims living in the West on how to improve their skills and tips on how to improve the impact of attacks on western civilians. For example, the organization recommends adding a sharp edge to the front of a vehicle in order to increase the number of casualties. In addition, the organization threatens to carry out additional attacks against France as long as it continues its oppression in the battle against Muslims.
- The **Islamic State** claims responsibility for a series of IS-inspired terrorist attacks carried out by Muslims against Western targets, including the ramming attack in Nice, France; a shooting spree at a mall in Ansbach, Germany; the murder of a pastor in a church in Normandy, France; and more. In addition, IS supporters continue to disseminate threats to attack coalition states participating in the battle against the organization.

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## New Publications

### Ideology

- Al-Sahab Media Foundation, which belongs to Al-Qaeda, published a video clip by Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri titled, “Carry the Weapon of the Martyr – Part 3”. In the opening of the clip, al-Zawahiri eulogized Mirjan Salem, one of the leaders of an Egyptian jihadist organization who died in Al-Akrab prison in Egypt in August 2015. Al-Zawahiri gave a brief review of Salem’s life and mentioned that he worked to spread the concept of jihad in Egypt but was arrested twice during Hosni Mubarak’s presidency. During Morsi’s regime, he renewed his preaching activities about jihad in Egypt but with Morsi’s ousting and Abdel Fattah al-Sisi’s rise to power, he was sent to jail for a third time together with other jihad leaders due to his preaching.

Al-Zawahiri then called on all Al-Qaeda branches and jihad fighters wherever they are to kidnap Western civilians and soldiers, and emphasized that it was a justified act aimed at freeing members of the organization jailed in the West in exchange for western captives. For this, he praised Al-Nusra Front, which successfully traded captive Lebanese soldiers for Muslim prisoners. According to him, this line must be followed until all Muslim prisoners are released from the jails of the Crusaders and enemies of Islam. Al-Zawahiri praised the determination of Al-Qaeda members to free Muslim prisoners, including Afia Siddiqu, a Pakistani atomic scientist jailed in the US, Sheikh ‘Umar ‘Abd al-Rahman, who planned the terrorist attack against the World Trade Center in the 1990’s, and others in exchange for the Jewish American prisoner, Warren Weinstein. Al-Zawahiri noted that Weinstein and another prisoner with Italian citizenship named Giovanni Lo Porto had converted to Islam of their own free will without pressure from any external force. He criticized Italy for delaying the release of the Italian prisoner, and criticized the US for the air strike that it carried out against an Al-Qaeda base in January 2015 that killed two people. According to him, Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent vowed to publish more details on the matter and called on Muslims to avenge their deaths.

Al-Zawahiri then eulogized leaders of jihadist groups loyal to Al-Qaeda in the Caucasus, Somalia and Egypt. In addition, he called on jihad fighters, including “the mujahideen in Libya” to help their brothers in Egypt to wipe out al-Sisi’s regime since Muslims in Egypt are under the rule of

apostasy and living under severe oppression. According to him, if it was possible to unite the ranks of the mujahideen in Egypt then it is possible to change the course of events.<sup>1</sup>



From left to right: a clip from a video displaying photos of Mullah Omar, the leader of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan; Abu Yahya al-Libi, a former senior commander of Al-Qaeda

- Al-Qaeda published an announcement titled, "The Taking Captive of Families of Mujahideen Migrants by the Traitorous Pakistani Army". According to the organization, the Pakistani government arrested three Muslim women over a year-and-a-half ago who were married to former Al-Qaeda members, including the widow of the martyr, Dujana al-Basha, an Al-Qaeda fighter who blew himself up among American and Jordanian security forces. It is important to note that the prisoners also include two of the daughters of Ayman al-Zawahiri, the leader of Al-Qaeda. The organization noted that negotiations with the Pakistani government regarding their release had failed, and that they are still in prison in accordance with US orders. In light of this, Al-Qaeda clarified that the Pakistani government, the Pakistani army and the US are responsible for the treatment of these prisoners.<sup>2</sup>
- Sheikh **Ayman al-Zawahiri**, the leader of Al-Qaeda, published the second edition of a book that he edited with introductions and explanations titled, "Smiling Jasmine Flower Bouquets from the Precious Pearl and Al-Muqaddimah", which he first published in June 2011. The book is based on a book written in the 13<sup>th</sup> century AD about Arabic grammar titled, "Al-Muqaddimah al-Ajurriyyah". In the introduction to the book's first edition, al-Zawahiri wrote about the

<sup>1</sup> <http://store4.up-00.com/dl/f9f71/احملسلاالشهيدالحلقةالثالثة.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://ia801508.us.archive.org/8/items/osar-pakis>

period during which he was in Afghanistan in the 1980's and the reasons for editing the current book.<sup>3</sup>



The banner of the book

- Hani al-Sibai, a prominent Egyptian Salafi-jihadist scholar who supports Al-Qaeda and lives in London, tweeted the following on his Twitter account:
  - A reference to the failed coup in Turkey and to the question of whether Erdogan's fate will be similar to that of the President of Pakistan, Zia al-Haq, who was killed by a bomb placed on his plane.<sup>4</sup>
- The Egyptian Al-Murabitun, which is affiliated with Al-Qaeda, published a series of audio clips regarding Islam by Abu Hamza al-Ansari, a member of the organization.<sup>5</sup>
- Al-Himma publishing house, the Islamic State's publishing house, published a book titled, "How to be Saved and Rid Oneself of Loyalty to Infidel Muslims and the Turks" by Sheikh Hamad bin 'Atiq, a Wahhabi sage from the Arabian Peninsula from the 19th century (1901-1812). The book legitimizes rebellion against the Turks (the Ottoman Empire in the writer's time) and sanctifies the principle of Al-Wala wal-Bara, loyalty to Muslims and the repudiation of non-Muslims.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> <https://justpaste.it/wqjv>

<sup>4</sup> <https://twitter.com/hanisibu/status/755317387986104325>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=66lQiVta6K4>

<sup>6</sup> [https://archive.org/details/sabeel\\_alnajat](https://archive.org/details/sabeel_alnajat)

- Al-Wafaa jihadist media institution published an article by a writer known as Abd al-Wadud al-Asir in which he responded to those who doubt the legitimacy of the “Islamic Caliphate”. In the article, al-Asir reviewed the institution of the Caliphate during different periods in the history of Islam, explained its importance and specifically referred to the return of the Caliphate led by Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Using Islamic sources as reference, al-Asir explained that all Muslims are obligated to swear allegiance to the Caliph and to obey him, while the Caliph himself is obligated to protect his subjects. In addition, the article dealt with other Islamic legal issues, such as the prohibition against the presence of two caliphates simultaneously (in different areas).<sup>7</sup>

## Strategy

- Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula published a guidebook titled, “Inspire Guide #2: Operation Nice”. The guidebook was published following the ramming attack in Nice, which was carried out by a French Muslim citizen during Bastille Day festivities in France. Approximately 84 people were killed in the attack. In the introduction to the guidebook, the organization justified the ramming attack against civilians, including children and women, claiming that France and the US are killing thousands of Muslims each and every day, and pillaging the natural resources of Muslim lands. He praised the attack and encouraged additional “lone wolf” suicide attacks by those willing to die while carrying out the attack. Later in the guidebook, the organization referred to the modus operandi of the attack, the message of the attack (to create fear throughout Europe, and especially in France, and create a sense of insecurity that will negatively impact tourism in France and negatively impact the country’s economic strength), and instructions on how to carry out similar attacks. For example, the organization recommended adding a sharp blade to the front of a vehicle in order to increase the number of casualties. Finally, the organization threatened that attacks against France will continue as long as it continues its persecution of Muslims.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> <https://shamukh.net/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>8</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5ek4w-2zmjxZGxRVmhHZVM0Vms/view>



The banner page of the guidebook

- During the second half of July 2016, various Telegram (an encrypted chat program) channels identified with the IS published guidebooks and tips for Muslims living in the West on how to carry out lone wolf attacks.<sup>9</sup>



From left to right: an electronic guidebook on lone wolf attacks on the Telegram channel of the Caliphate Cyber Army; tips for the “lone wolf” on how to carry out terrorist attacks

<sup>9</sup> [https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=c1022984485\\_16972543586237468950](https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=c1022984485_16972543586237468950)

- A writer on the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum known as al-Maqdisi published a post regarding various arenas of virtual publicity in which the IS can be promoted. In the framework of the post, the writer complained about the move of activity from Facebook and Twitter, arenas in which the organization's materials can be distributed to all Muslims, to Telegram, an arena in which those active are almost all followers of the organization who already support it anyway.<sup>10</sup>
- A writer on the Da'wa al-Haqq Islamic news portal published a report regarding the downing of 31 aircraft by the IS in Iraq, Syria and Libya during a period of four months. The writer reviewed the various types of aircraft that were downed and presented it as an achievement by the organization's "air defense battalions".<sup>11</sup>

## Guidebooks and Instruction Manuals

- During the second half of July 2016, members of the "General Military Sciences" Telegram channel discussed technological tools that can help map and photograph topographic territory in order to gather intelligence to help prepare terrorist attacks. For example, one visitor to the channel recommended a software program called Universal Maps, another visitor recommended using Google services such as Google Maps, and a third visitor recommended using offlineMaps.<sup>12</sup>

## Promoting the Myth of the Martyr

- AQIM in the Greater Sahara published a eulogy in memory of Abu Bakr al-Shinqiti, a senior military commander in the organization who was killed on the Mali-Burkina Faso border as a result of an attack by the Malian army. The organization sent its condolences to a Berber tribe named Tajakant living in North Africa (Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria and Mali) where al-Shinqiti

<sup>10</sup> <https://shamukh.net/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>11</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48409>

<sup>12</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/>

grew up. The organization also eulogized 'Abd al-Malik al-Nigeri, al-Shinqiti's bodyguard who was killed together with him.<sup>13</sup>

In addition, the organization eulogized Abu Khaythmah (aka Ahmad Jabari), a senior member of the organization who was killed in clashes with Algerian security forces in Tizi Ouzou on July 19, 2016. The eulogy stated that Jabari was a prominent symbol of jihad who contributed to the revival of jihad in Algeria. At the end of the announcement, the organization threatened that France's emissary, mainly meaning Algeria, will pay for its crimes against Muslims.<sup>14</sup>



The banner in memory of Abu Bakr al-Shinqiti

- The Taliban in Pakistan launched a new series of videos titled, "The Martyrs of Islam".<sup>15</sup>

## Magazines

- During the second half of July 2016, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan published three new issues of its magazines, *Al-Somood*, which covers the arena of jihad in Afghanistan (issue no. 124, 44 pp.);<sup>16</sup> *Shari'at* in Urdu (issue no. 53, 48 pp.);<sup>17</sup> and *Nawai Afghani Jihad* in Urdu.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> [https://justpaste.it/Abu\\_Bakr\\_Shanqiti](https://justpaste.it/Abu_Bakr_Shanqiti)

<sup>14</sup> [https://justpaste.it/Ahmed\\_Djabri\\_AQMI](https://justpaste.it/Ahmed_Djabri_AQMI)

<sup>15</sup> [https://ia801505.us.archive.org/34/items/Shuhada\\_e\\_Islam\\_01](https://ia801505.us.archive.org/34/items/Shuhada_e_Islam_01)

<sup>16</sup> <https://ia801505.us.archive.org/18/items/alsomood124>

<sup>17</sup> <https://ia601506.us.archive.org/19/items/shariat-53>

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.mediafire.com/download/qjc8dy66ss9h3r2/july2016.pdf>



From left to right: the banners of *Al-Somood*, *Shari'at* and *Nawai Afghan Jihad* magazines

- During the second half of July 2016, Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula published issues no. 16-17 of its magazine, *Al-Masra*, which covers various arenas of jihad.<sup>19</sup>



The banners of *Al-Masra*

- During the second half of July 2016, Al-Qaeda published issues no. 3-6 of the periodical, *Al-Nafir*. All of the issues were dedicated to arguments against Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of the IS, and condemned all Muslims who swore allegiance to him. For example, the issue stated

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<sup>19</sup> [http://up.top4top.net/downloadf\\_198nzdv0-pdf.html](http://up.top4top.net/downloadf_198nzdv0-pdf.html); [http://up.top4top.net/downloadf\\_207hyek0-pdf.html](http://up.top4top.net/downloadf_207hyek0-pdf.html)

that anyone who swore allegiance to him is considered partner to the killings of thousands of Muslims.<sup>20</sup>



The banner of Al-Nafir

- The Al-Muhajirun group, which is affiliated with Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen, published an issue of the magazine, Al-Ghuraba, in Swahili, which addressed the topic of women in East Africa: issue no. 4 (4 pp.) for July 2016.<sup>21</sup>



Kuunga Mkono Mujahideen



The banner of Al-Ghuraba

<sup>20</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/CnvDgwCW8AA2qIP.jpg>;

<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn5SUtYVYAAzXbv.jpg>; [https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn-R\\_zrWYAAg3rJ.jpg](https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn-R_zrWYAAg3rJ.jpg)

<sup>21</sup> <https://ia601504.us.archive.org/26/items/AGIssue4>

- During the second half of July 2016, issues no. 39-40 of the periodical, *Al-Naba*, were published by the Islamic State. Among the topics covered in the issues were: a review of the main trends and events in arenas of jihad in which IS fighters operate; statements praising the path of the organization; the last will and testament of 'Umar al-Shishani, a former senior IS commander.<sup>22</sup>



The banners of the *Al-Naba* issues

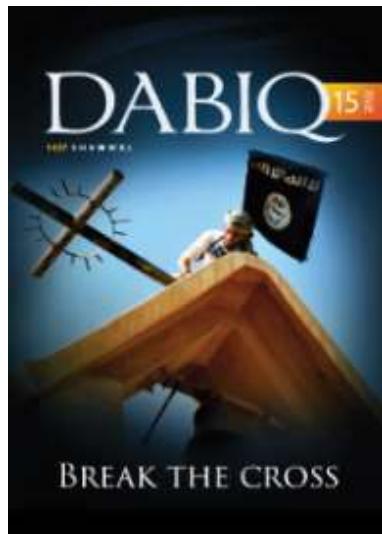


From left to right: 52 losses among the tanks battling against the IS in Iraq during April-July 2016; 30 losses among the planes attacking the IS in the organization's various provinces during April-July 2016

- The IS published issue no. 15 of its English-language magazine, *DABIQ*. Among the topics covered in the current issue were: encouragement for lone wolf attacks in Western countries; the decay of the Western woman; polemic against Christianity and a call on non-Muslims to

<sup>22</sup><https://ia601505.us.archive.org/2/items/Naba39>; [http://ia801507.us.archive.org/3/items/fdhtryezfaez\\_mail\\_40](http://ia801507.us.archive.org/3/items/fdhtryezfaez_mail_40)

convert to Islam; personal stories of converts to Islam regarding their motivations to convert and join the organization; an interview with an IS fighter named Abu Sa'ad al-Trinidad, who migrated from the Islands of Trinidad in the Caribbean in order to join the IS; a review of various arenas of jihad in which IS fighters operate.<sup>23</sup>



The banner page of *DABIQ*

## Reports from the Field

### Afghanistan-Pakistan

*The second half of July opened with an attack by over 100 Taliban in Afghanistan fighters in Kunduz Province, which is located in northern Afghanistan.<sup>24</sup> As a result, there were clashes in the area between Taliban fighters and Afghan security forces during which the organization's fighters managed to seize control of part of the province.<sup>25</sup> In addition, Taliban fighters successfully captured one area of Helmand Province, which is located in southern Afghanistan next to the border with Pakistan.<sup>26</sup> In this context, a report was published this month that was based on reports by US forces in Afghanistan, according to which the Afghan government lost 5% of Afghan territory to the*

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<sup>23</sup> [https://ia801509.us.archive.org/12/items/Dabiq15\\_20160731](https://ia801509.us.archive.org/12/items/Dabiq15_20160731)

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/taliban-attacks-rock-afghanistan-kunduz-province-160718131807246.html>

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/fighting-rages-taliban-attacks-afghanistan-kunduz-160720190432520.html>

<sup>26</sup> <http://goo.gl/Vl94dg>

*Taliban since the beginning of the year. The report also stated that the Afghan government now controls 65.6% of the territory, in contrast to the 70.5% that it controlled last year.*<sup>27</sup>

*In addition to attacks by the Taliban, the IS also continued to carry out terrorist attacks in Afghanistan as IS suicide terrorists blew themselves up during a demonstration in Kabul by members of the Hazaras tribe, a Farsi-speaking Shi'ite minority, which resulted in at least 80 deaths.<sup>28</sup> In contrast, Afghan security forces reported that Saad al-Emarati, a senior IS commander in Afghanistan, was killed in an American shelling in Nangarhar Province in eastern Afghanistan.<sup>29</sup>*

### ***The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan***

- The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan published the following:
  - An announcement regarding its lack of involvement in the internal affairs of others. The announcement stated that, as opposed to the enemy propaganda, the Islamic Emirate guarantees the countries of Central Asia and its neighbors that it is not interested in intervening in their internal affairs and will not allow anyone to use the land under its control against another person. The organization also emphasized that it wants to live in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.<sup>30</sup>
  - An announcement by the spokesman for the organization regarding rumors of the mujahideen's surrender in Darah Suf and a decrease in the number of attacks. The announcement stated that the Chairperson of the US Joint Chief of Staffs claimed during a visit to Kabul that the number of operations by mujahideen began to decrease since the start of the month of Ramadan, and he attributed this to the weakening of the organization due to a change in leadership. Later in the announcement, the spokesman of the Islamic Emirate denied this interpretation and claimed that the scope of the mujahideen's activities had decreased due to the prevailing heat in the area and due to the fast of Ramadan. The announcement also stated that the organization's change in leadership did not affect the muahideen's battlefronts since the leader does not fight in

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<sup>27</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/taliban-gained-territory-afghanistan-sigar-160729053011049.html>

<sup>28</sup> <http://goo.gl/FrtRlj>

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-36892100>

<sup>30</sup> <http://alemarah-english.com/?p=1444> (English).

the field. The announcement added that the enemy should not be optimistic and confident in its capabilities, and that the mujahideen continue to wage jihad against their enemies with the same determination. At the end of the announcement, the organization denied the enemy's claim according to which 120 mujahideen had surrendered in Darah Suf.<sup>31</sup>

- An announcement by the spokesman for the organization in which he claimed that the Islamic Emirate was not responsible for the explosions that took place during the demonstration in Kabul, referring to the demonstration by members of the Hazras tribe that took place in the city. The announcement also stated that the organization condemns any activities designed to divide the Afghan Nation into ethnic groups and cause them to fight against one another.<sup>32</sup>
- Al-Sadeqeen Media jihadist media institution published a promo to a video set to be published at a later date regarding the heroic actions of fighters belonging to the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan.<sup>33</sup>



A clip from the promo to the video

#### ***The Islamic State in Khorasan Province***

- The Islamic State in Khorasan Province published a claim of responsibility for a series of terrorist attacks that were carried out against the Shi'ite population in Kabul.<sup>34</sup>

#### **The Arabian Peninsula**

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<sup>31</sup> <http://alemarah-english.com/?p=1527> (English).

<sup>32</sup> <http://alemarah-english.com/?p=1667> (English).

<sup>33</sup> <https://vimeo.com/174726695>

<sup>34</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48015>

*Since the escalation in the civil war in Yemen in March 2015, which began as a result of the involvement of the Arab coalition, led by Saudi Arabia, over 6,000 people were killed and over 2.2 million others were displaced. Peace talks held in Kuwait since April 2016 between Houthis and those loyal to deposed President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and those loyal to incumbent President Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi, ran into difficulties towards the end of July 2016. The reason for the crisis stemmed from the announcement of the establishment of a coalition made up of the Revolutionary Committee of Houthis and Saleh's movement, in the framework of which a Supreme Council composed of ten members was established in order to grant legitimacy to Houthi rule in Yemen and to manage the country's political, military, economic and administrative affairs. This move was interpreted by Ali Saleh as a blatant violation of the understanding reached during peace talks, according to which the Houthis demanded, among other things, that they vacate the cities that they occupied in Yemen.<sup>35</sup>*

*The lack of change in the status quo in Yemen did not add to security in the country and played into the hands of terrorist organizations. For example, Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for several terrorist attacks and assassinations of government officials. On July 16, the organization claimed responsibility for the assassination of 'Idrus al-Zubaydi, the governor of Aden, who was killed in a car bomb explosion.<sup>36</sup> The organization also claimed responsibility for two other terrorist attacks at military barriers in northern Mukala, in which two suicide terrorists drove an explosives-ridden vehicle into the barriers. In the attack, 11 people were killed, including seven soldiers, and 18 others were injured.<sup>37</sup> In Ta'iz, the organization blew up the mausoleum of a Suffi sheikh due to the belief that it constituted idolatry and polytheism.<sup>38</sup>*

### ***Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula***

- Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) claimed responsibility for the assassination of the governor of Aden.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/yemen-hadi-government-withdraws-talks-160730070622342.html> (English).

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.raialyoum.com/?p=478277>

<sup>37</sup> <https://arabic.rt.com/news/832728/> (Arabic).

<sup>38</sup> <https://arabi21.com/story/932144/> (Arabic).

<sup>39</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com>

### **The Islamic State**

- The Islamic State claimed responsibility for the killing of seven Yemeni soldiers in a car bomb explosion.<sup>40</sup>

### **Iraq**

*During the second half of July 2016, the IS continued to carry out terrorist attacks against security forces and Shi'ite targets in the area of Baghdad. In this framework, a suicide terrorist detonated his explosives vest next to a checkpoint in Kadhimiyyah, Baghdad.<sup>41</sup> In addition, IS fighters detonated a car bomb at the entrance to the city of Al-Khalis, which is located north pf Baghdad, killing at least 15 people.<sup>42</sup> Moreover, at the end of the month IS fighters attacked two structures at the Bai Hassan oil field, northwest of Kirkuk, but did not manage to take control of it.<sup>43</sup> In contrast, the Iraqi army successfully liberated the area of Al-Doulab, located west of the city of Heet, with help from local tribes and coalition planes.<sup>44</sup>*

### **The Islamic State**

- Amaq news agency published the following:
  - A video regarding the destruction of an Iraqi army APC using a guided missile northwest of Sharqat. Another video documented the destruction of a BMP using a guided missile south of Qayyara.<sup>45</sup>
  - An announcement regarding attacks against Iraqi security forces throughout the country: the killing of nine soldiers in an explosion in northern Diyala, the killing of over 30 people in attacks in the city of Rutba in western Al-Anbar, the killing of two soldiers

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<sup>40</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47785>

<sup>41</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/deadly-baghdad-suicide-bombing-targets-shia-area-160724071420679.html> (English).

<sup>42</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/iraq-suicide-attack-kills-21-baghdad-160725071250895.html> (English).

<sup>43</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/iraq-isil-fighters-storm-energy-facilities-kirkuk-160731073528532.html> (English).

<sup>44</sup> <http://www.iraqnews.com/iraq-war/al-doulab-liberated-73-isis-fighters-killed/> (English).

<sup>45</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47537>; <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47575>

by sniper fire in Al-Nasr village, west of Makhmur, and the destruction of seven armored cars in an explosion on the Sharqat-Dabs road.<sup>46</sup>

- The media departments of the various provinces of the Islamic State in Iraq published a range of videos and filmed reviews, which dealt with the following issues:

A. Battles and Military Deployments:

- Al-Furat Province: A video regarding battles fought by the organization against Iraqi army forces in the province. The video documented the infiltration of IS fighters into a military post in southern Al-Furat Province that ended with the post being set on fire. At the end of the video, a Russian-speaking IS fighter made threats against Putin and vowed that more attacks would be carried out in Russia.<sup>47</sup>
- Al-Furat Province: A filmed review regarding an American aircraft that was downed near the Ayn al-Asad base southwest of Baghdad.<sup>48</sup>
- Various provinces: Filmed reviews and videos regarding various operational topics, including: a report of dozens of army PMF forces killed and injured west of the city of Hit,<sup>49</sup> an attack against the army and Shi'ite militias in Ajil field in Kirkuk Province,<sup>50</sup> a suicide attack that was carried out by a Palestinian terrorist against army forces in Dijla Province,<sup>51</sup> the setting alight of four army posts in an attack on the residential building on Qayyarah air base in Dijla Province,<sup>52</sup> 40 army and police forces killed and

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<sup>46</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CngCOH1WcAATZMb.jpg>;

<https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CnrPPt7XEAA4jOW.jpg>; <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CnzHWmtWgAAJINT.jpg>; <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Cn-M3ptW8AAi1VL.jpg>

<sup>47</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48457>

<sup>48</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48158>

<sup>49</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CnkcsXHWgAAz8AL.jpg>

<sup>50</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CnpK2oBWIAElk2k.jpg>;

<https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47704>

<sup>51</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47755>

<sup>52</sup> [https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Cn\\_6LNWWIAEqUUr.jpg](https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Cn_6LNWWIAEqUUr.jpg)

wounded in a suicide attack in the city of Khales,<sup>53</sup> and two infiltration attacks against Peshmerga members in Al-Dab, in Kirkuk Province.<sup>54</sup>

B. Propaganda and PR:

- Al-Furat Province: A video titled, “Your Silence Will Lead to Your Deaths” in which threats were directed against the French nation against the backdrop of the stabbing attack in Nice. A French-speaking, masked militant appeared in the video and explained that the attack was a direct, “eye for an eye” response to attacks by coalition forces against Muslim civilians in Syria and Iraq. Accordingly, the militant called on all Muslims in France to avenge those Muslims and explained that their silence in the face of the government’s actions is what led to the series of attacks in France.<sup>55</sup>



**Threats in French from Al-Furat Province**

- Nineveh Province: A video titled, “Merchants of the Religion” containing accusations against religious clerics in Saudi Arabia who act with the blessing of the King. In the video, which included fragments of narration, hisbah officials directed special criticism at the “King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural

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<sup>53</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CoNqbdIW8AALTwg.jpg>

<sup>54</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CotLdbEUIAgDJ0g.jpg>

<sup>55</sup> [https://archive.org/details/g5902282\\_trbvm\\_20160721\\_0742](https://archive.org/details/g5902282_trbvm_20160721_0742)

- Dialogue – KAICIID”. In addition, it accused the Saudi government of forming alliances with the US and creating a false external impression of a kingdom operating according to shari'a, using religious scholars and sponsorship of Hajj rituals.<sup>56</sup>
- *Baghdad Province*: A video titled, “Baghdad – Fortress of Glory”, which reviewed the history of the city, beginning with the early days of Islam through colonialism and the US occupation until today under Shi'ite rule. Naturally, a large part of the review was dedicated to the history of jihad activities against Shi'ites and Americans in the Iraqi capital, especially since the rise of the IS. The video also included an IS fighter who spoke of attacks that were carried out against Shi'ites in the capital (while combining video clips from the scene of the attacks), and explained how the attacks - especially the 2016 Karrada bombing – led to a change in government policies and the resignation of the Minister of Interior. The end of the video displayed statistical details, and a map of the distribution of attacks and the suburbs in which they were carried out during the last month.<sup>57</sup>

## Al-Sham [The Levant]

*The death count in Syria continued to rise, both as a result of terrorist attacks carried out by the IS (at least 50 people were killed in a double attack in Qamishli)<sup>58</sup> and air strikes (approximately 300 people were killed and injured in Syrian and Russian strikes in Aleppo).<sup>59</sup> Meanwhile, Bashar al-Assad's regime completed its siege on the city of Aleppo.<sup>60</sup> The regime promised to allow “humanitarian corridors” for civilians interested in leaving the city but opposition factions warned against this and described them as “corridors of death”.<sup>61</sup> The battle also continued in Manbij*

<sup>56</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48321>

<sup>57</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48321>

<sup>58</sup> [http://www.bbc.com/arabic/middleeast/2016/07/160727\\_syria\\_qamishli\\_blasts](http://www.bbc.com/arabic/middleeast/2016/07/160727_syria_qamishli_blasts) (Arabic).

<sup>59</sup> <https://goo.gl/bf5zZC>

<sup>60</sup> <https://goo.gl/bn42qQ>

<sup>61</sup> <https://goo.gl/eef8gc>

*between Syrian Democratic Forces and the IS. At the end of the month, these forces reported having taken over most of the city<sup>62</sup> but, according to other sources, they had only seized 40% of territory in the city.<sup>63</sup>*

*Despite continued shellings and battles, the UN envoy to Syria, Staffan de Mistura, expressed hope for the renewal of peace talks concerning Syria during the month of August.<sup>64</sup> An agreement between the US and Russia was also reported whose aim was to formulate concrete steps to achieve a long-term ceasefire in Syria.<sup>65</sup>*

## **Syria**

### **Al-Nusra Front**

- Al-Nusra Front, Al-Qaeda's branch in Syria, published the following:
  - A video in which a member of Hezbollah who was taken captive by Al-Nusra Front described the crimes carried out by the Lebanese Hezbollah against the Sunni population in the arena of battle in Syria. For example, he said that Hezbollah uses women and children as human shields in the area of Wadi Barda.<sup>66</sup>

### ***The Announcement of the Establishment of Jabhat Fatah al-Sham (formerly Al-Nusra Front) and Subsequent Reactions among Jihad Fighters***

- The leader of Al-Nusra Front, Abu Mohammad al-Julani, published an announcement in which he declared a change in the organization's name and the establishment of a new entity to be called Jabhat Fatah Al-Sham. Al-Julani announced that the new organization will fight alongside rebel organizations against the Al-Assad regime and its supporters will not be subject to any external entities, and for this reason he intends to separate his organization from Al-Qaeda. In the announcement, al-Julani thanked Al-Qaeda leadership for agreeing to this step, which expressed the view of Sheikh Osama bin Laden, the former leader of Al-Qaeda, according to which "the interest of the nation precedes the interest of the Muslim State, the interest of the

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<sup>62</sup> <https://goo.gl/UNDACW>

<sup>63</sup> <https://goo.gl/RK5Mkc>

<sup>64</sup> [http://www.bbc.com/arabic/middleeast/2016/07/160726\\_syria\\_us\\_russia](http://www.bbc.com/arabic/middleeast/2016/07/160726_syria_us_russia) (Arabic).

<sup>65</sup> <https://www.rt.com/news/351626-lavrov-kerry-syria-ceasefire/>

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhS38Eo-G00>

State precedes the interest of collective, and the interest of the collective precedes the interest of the individual". He stressed that the move was made out of the obligation to serve the Syrian people and their jihad. Al-Julani then gave two reasons for the change to the organization's name and the establishment of a new framework: First, to promote unity among the mujahideen factions in Syria and to create one entity to free Syria from the Alawite regime and its supporters. Second, not to give the international community, led by the US and Russia, reason to attack Syrian revolution factions by claiming that the attacks are directed against Al-Nusra Front, which serves as a branch of Al-Qaeda. Finally, al-Julani referred to the goals of the new organization, including: the application of Islam according to the principles of shari'a and the attainment of justice for all people, the unification of all opposition factions in order to liberate Syria and topple the regime and its allies, the preservation of jihad in Syria and its continuation through all legitimate channels, the attainment of aid for Muslims and the preservation of their rights, and the achievement of security, stability and life with dignity.<sup>67</sup>



**Abu Mohammad al-Julani's speech announcing the establishment of a new body to be called Jabhat Fatah al-Sham that will not be subject to any external entity**

- Jabhat Fatah al-Sham published an announcement in which it spelled out its charter, which is centered on a Salafi-jihadist worldview and its efforts to implement shari'a. The announcement

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<sup>67</sup> <https://goo.gl/DF1h8w>; For more details see: Michael Barak, "Has Al-Nusra Front Severed Ties With Al-Qaeda? – Implications and Significance", *ICT*, 4.8.2016. <https://www.ict.org.il/Article/1752/has-al-nusra-front-severed-ties-with-al-qaeda>

emphasized the desire for Muslim unity in general, and unity among the mujahideen in particular. The following are the principles of the covenant:

1. The organization's faith and path are based on the Quran and the Sunnah, according to the understanding of Islam's founding fathers and righteous sages, including the founders of the four Islamic schools of thought.
2. It is an obligation to fight against the enemy who seeks to suppress the religion and degrade the dignity of Muslims.
3. One must fight for the sake of implementing shari'a and upholding the religion of Allah in practice.
4. One must wage jihad according to the way of the Sunnah, and in accordance with religious teachings and shari'a and the path of the Prophet Muhammad.
5. One must remove the oppressor from the oppressed, be it Muslims or infidels.
6. One must treat people with understanding and respect, and expose them to the message of Allah peacefully and with soft words.
7. One must respect the clerics of the Muslim nation and appreciate them.
8. One must display loyalty to the Muslims, and show hostility towards the infidels and renounce them.
9. One must avoid controversy and divisiveness, and to strive instead for unity and consensus among the nation and the mujahideen.
10. One must be sure to use God's words as a source of authority requiring each person through acts, propaganda and money.<sup>68</sup>
  - An announcement regarding the failed attempt by the Khawarij to attack the area of Al-Lajat, which is located in the northeast suburb of Daraa. The announcement also stated that the attack took place at the same time as other attacks by the Yarmouk Martyrs Brigade in nearby areas under the control of Jabhat Fatah al-Sham, but these attacks failed as well. The announcement added that the organization stands with them against the Alawite regime and against the Khawarij despite their repeated attempts to capture

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<sup>68</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com>

the city. At the end of the announcement, the organization called on jihadist factions in southern Syria to stand against the enemies of the revolution.<sup>69</sup>

### ***Reactions to Al-Nusra Front's Split from Al-Qaeda***

- Responses to al-Julani's announcement were characterized by expressions of support from jihadist factions that support Al-Qaeda, and by harsh criticism from supporters of the IS. One prominent reaction came from the most senior rank of Al-Qaeda. On July 28, 2016 Al-Sahab jihadist media institution, which belongs to Al-Qaeda leadership, published an approximately six-and-a-half minute long audio clip in which Ahmad Hasan Abu al-Khayr, deputy to Al-Qaeda leader Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri, gave the "green light" to Al-Nusra Front to split from Al-Qaeda. In the clip, al-Khayr noted that Al-Qaeda leadership had thoroughly examined the political and military circumstances in Syria, seriously examined the difficulties and challenges as well as the suffering being experienced by the Syrian people as a result of coalition forces' attacks, and reached the conclusion that it is preferable to maintain unity among the ranks of the mujahideen and the strength of jihad in Syria. In light of this, al-Khayr appealed to Al-Nusra Front leadership and asked it to continue to conduct itself in a manner that protects the interests of Islam and Muslims as well as the Syrian people's jihad, and to take steps accordingly.<sup>70</sup>

Despite this, Sheikh Hani al-Sibai, a supporter of Al-Qaeda, expressed a diffident stance on the move. In his opinion, cutting ties with Al-Qaeda was considered a violation of the oath of allegiance from a religious legal perspective, and that such a move has more disadvantages than advantages.<sup>71</sup> Al-Sibai also claimed that if ties to Al-Qaeda serve as an obstacle to unity among the factions, then they can also unite without Al-Nusra Front.<sup>72</sup>

The move itself spun the propaganda wheels of the Islamic State in condemning the conduct of Al-Qaeda and its branches. The jihadist Asawirti Media institution, which supports the IS, published a video regarding the relationship between Ayman al-Zawahiri, the leader of Al-Qaeda, and Abu Mohammad al-Julani, the leader of Al-Nusra Front, which changed its name to

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<sup>69</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com>

<sup>70</sup> [https://ia801503.us.archive.org/15/items/Naeb\\_Dr](https://ia801503.us.archive.org/15/items/Naeb_Dr)

<sup>71</sup> <https://twitter.com/hanisibu/status/756674749242179585>

<sup>72</sup> <https://twitter.com/hanisibu/status/756674749242179585>

Jabhat Fatah al-Sham and announced its split from Al-Qaeda. The video was mainly composed of clips from al-Zawahiri's speeches designed to show the discrepancy in his policies or change in his positions (for instance, a clip from a speech in May 2016 in which he explained that if Al-Nusra Front severs ties with Al-Qaeda it will not be embraced by its rivals, and a clip from a speech in May 2013 in which he praised Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and the Islamic State of Iraq.<sup>73</sup> The Baqiyya jihadist media institution, which supports the IS and operates in German, published a condemnation of the announced separation of Al-Nusra Front from Al-Qaeda. The announcement posed the question of whether the split constituted a serious violation of the oath of allegiance to which al-Julani was bound since, according to al-Zawahiri, anyone who swore allegiance to bin Laden in his day was also bound to allegiance to Mullah Akhtar Mansour (the oath can only be breached in a case where the leader to whom allegiance was sworn demonstrated "obvious blasphemy"). The announcement emphasized the above-mentioned violation in order to illustrate Al-Qaeda's misguided path.<sup>74</sup> Other jihadist media institutions affiliated with the IS explained that al-Julani wanted to split from Al-Qaeda in order to join the side of the US. In addition, they explained that this move indicates a drop in Al-Qaeda's power.<sup>75</sup>



A banner criticizing al-Julani and Al-Qaeda as a result of Al-Nusra Front's split from Al-Qaeda

### ***Jund al-Aqsa***

- Jund al-Aqsa, which is identified with Al-Qaeda in Syria, published the following:
  - An appeal to Ahrar al-Sham, a large Salafi-jihadist faction in Syria, claiming to offer clarification regarding the shooting by a member of the latter directed at Jund al-Aqsa fighters that injured one of them. The organization explained that its fighters are already

<sup>73</sup> <https://ia601208.us.archive.org/24/items/shrka2mo/shrka2mo.mp4>

<sup>74</sup> <https://shamukh.net/vb>; <https://up.harajgulf.com/do.php?img=968041>

<sup>75</sup> [https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=@Alsumoud\\_Nasher](https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=@Alsumoud_Nasher); <https://justpaste.it/wqwe>

subject to fire by coalition forces and, therefore, it was surprised by the shooting from Ahrar al-Sham. In addition, the organization demands that those involved in the shooting be handed over to it in order to put them on trial.<sup>76</sup>

- An announcement offering congratulations on the establishment of Jabhat Fatah al-Sham after it split from Al-Qaeda as Al-Nusra Front. In the announcement, Jund al-Aqsa expressed hope that the move would benefit the Syrian people and lead to victory against the al-Assad regime. According to the organization, as long as Jabhat Fatah al-Sham remains true to its faith and to the path of jihad, it does not matter what name it calls itself.<sup>77</sup>

### ***Jaysh al-Fatah***

- Jaysh al-Fatah published an announcement in which it welcomed the establishment of the Assembly of Al-Sham Scholars. The announcement also stated that the organization hopes that this step will lead to unity in the Syrian arena.<sup>78</sup>

### ***The Association of Scholars in Al-Sham***

- Rabitat Ahl al-Ilm Fi al-Sham (The Association of Scholars in Al-Sham) published an announcement in which it welcomed Al-Nusra Front's split from Al-Qaeda and the establishment of Jabhat Fatah al-Sham. In the announcement, the organization called on all factions to overcome the obstacles and disputes, and unite the ranks.<sup>79</sup>

### ***Ahrar al-Sham***

- Ahrar al-Sham published the following:
  - An announcement in which it welcomed Al-Nusra Front's split from Al-Qaeda and the establishment of Jabhat Fatah al-Sham. The announcement also stated that the

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<sup>76</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com>

<sup>77</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com>

<sup>78</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/CnUThuiWcAA68HA.jpg>

<sup>79</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/CorUnyUWcAAmB8D.jpg>

organization thanks Al-Nusra Front for taking this step, and expressed hope that it would lead to the unification of all factions of the Syrian revolution and to additional military victories against the Assad regime and its supporters. The organization also noted that Russia and coalition planes tried to attack the revolution and civilians with the excuse of “battling terrorism” due to its classification of Al-Qaeda as a terrorist organization, and it expressed hope that these attacks will stop now that Al-Nusra Front has severed ties with Al-Qaeda.<sup>80</sup>

- An announcement regarding the indiscriminate shellings by coalition forces on the city of Manbij, located in Aleppo Governorate. In the announcement, the organization condemned the strikes by coalition forces in the city of Manbij, which is under IS control, and claimed that coalition forces are not discriminating between bombing IS fighters and bombing civilians, which has led to the deaths of over 100 civilians in the city. The announcement added that the coalition forces' bombings are intended to help the “terrorist” Syrian Democratic Forces belonging to PKK to seize control of the city. The announcement also stated that the attacks against civilians in Manbij did not receive a reaction from the international community, which raises the concern that the goal was the ethnic purging of Sunnis in the area. At the end of the announcement, the organization called on countries in the region and international organizations to intervene immediately in order to save the residents of Manbij and protect them as well as provide help for injured and sick civilians.<sup>81</sup>
- An announcement regarding a recent attack by Jund al-Aqsa. According to the announcement, Jund al-Aqsa fighters had tried to arrest an Ahrar al-Sham fighter, which led to shots being fired that seriously injured the fighter who then went to the hospital for treatment. The announcement added that Jund al-Aqsa fighters continued to chase after him, kidnapped him from the hospital and killed him. The organization also noted the connection between Jund al-Aqsa and IS fighters who are considered “Khawarij”. At the end of the announcement, the organization called on Jund al-Aqsa to turn over the fighters who took part in the incident to Jaysh al-Fatah so they can stand trial by

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<sup>80</sup> [https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Coj\\_7VtUsAASEom.jpg](https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Coj_7VtUsAASEom.jpg)

<sup>81</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn1o1LIXYAAGfU8.jpg>

Tajammu Ahl al-‘Ilm or an independent judicial body within 24 hours of the announcement’s publication. The announcement added that if Jund al-Aqsa does not grant its request, the organization will react harshly.<sup>82</sup>

- The text of an agreement reached between Ahrar al-Sham and Jund al-Aqsa. According to the agreement, the issue of the disagreement between them will be brought before a legal committee. In addition, it was agreed that the barriers between the two organizations will be removed, Jund al-Aqsa will hand over the killer to Jaysh al-Fatah, the body of the Ahrar al-Sham fighter will be returned to his family, all detainees from both organizations will be released, individuals will be appointed from each side to be responsible for delivering those fighters who must stand trial, and the media incitement between the sides will stop.<sup>83</sup>

### ***The Assembly of Al-Sham Scholars***

- The Assembly of Al-Sham Scholars published the following:
  - An announcement regarding tensions between Ahrar al-Sham and Jund al-Aqsa. In the announcement, the Assembly called on the above-mentioned organizations to act according to the laws of Allah and agree on a shari'a court to resolve the disagreement between them. The announcement also stated that if no agreement on such a court is reached, the Assembly will appoint a judge to rule between them. At the end of the announcement, the Assembly called on both sides to turn their weapons against the enemy and to stop spilling the blood of the mujahideen.<sup>84</sup>
  - An announcement in which it detailed the Assembly’s goals, including the consolidation of one source of fatwas and judgements in the Syrian arena, the creation of fertile ground for establishing unity among the mujahideen and overcoming the disagreements between them, the perpetuation of the revolution and jihad against the lies of the

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<sup>82</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn9pk9AWcAAi6jF.jpg>

<sup>83</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn7HClbWcAEtDe3.jpg>

<sup>84</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn6vHo8WAAQXhDz.jpg>

wicked and the radicals, and the announcement of the shari'a position on political events in the Syrian arena.<sup>85</sup>

- An announcement in which it welcomed the establishment of Jabhat Fatah al-Sham, which was aimed at maintaining unity and the interests of the Syrian people, and preventing excuses by the enemies of Islam. At the end of the announcement, the Assembly called on all factions to take steps towards uniting the ranks.<sup>86</sup>

### ***Ansar al-Din Front***

- Ansar al-Din Front, an umbrella organization composed of several jihadist factions in Syria, published the following:
  - An announcement in which it welcomed the establishment of the Assembly of Al-Sham Scholars. The organization added that there is an increased need for a consolidated shari'a and legal authority, and that the above-mentioned Assembly will fill that need. At the end of the announcement, the organization expressed its hope that members of the Assembly will not have political conflicts with the factions in the Syrian arena so that they can realize their goal.<sup>87</sup>
  - An announcement in which it congratulated Al-Nusra Front for severing ties with Al-Qaeda and for the establishment of Jabhat Fatah al-Sham. The announcement stated that the organization hopes that this step will lead to an end of excuses by internal elements that delayed unification of the ranks, and to an end to excuses by external entities that attacked the mujahideen under the guise of a "war on terror". At the end of the announcement, the organization again called on the mujahideen to unite.<sup>88</sup>
  - Harakat Sham al-Islam, a jihadist faction belonging to Al-Nusra Front, published a collection of photos documenting the second dawah conference that was held by the organization for area residents in Al-Zawf refugee camp, near western Idlib.<sup>89</sup>

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<sup>85</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/CoJX3gxXYAEEEs2.jpg>

<sup>86</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Coije7UXYAASlpF.jpg>

<sup>87</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/CoZqO9XUEAMKDe.jpg>

<sup>88</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/CopVkmVYAAbYMO.jpg>

<sup>89</sup> <https://twitter.com/ShaamAlislam/status/755102243855007744>



A member of the organization at a dawah conference for area residents

### ***The Turkestan Islamic Party in Al-Sham***

- The Turkestan Islamic Party in Al-Sham published the following:
  - A video in which members of the organization called on Muslims to help the muajhideen and obey the commandment to wage a war of jihad against the Syrian regime and its allies.<sup>90</sup>
  - A video including a song about the determination of Uighur Muslims to maintain their Muslim identity in light of the harsh oppression by the Chinese regime against its Muslim subjects. The song also praised Uighur Muslims for turning to the path of jihad and for migrating to the arena of jihad in Syria in order to fulfil the commandment of jihad.<sup>91</sup>
  - Congratulations on the establishment of Jabhat Fatah al-Sham and hope that, with its establishment, jihad factions in Syria will succeed in uniting and helping to achieve their goals.<sup>92</sup>

### ***The Islamic State***

- Amaq news agency published the following:
  - A video in which a member of the Forces of Martyr Ahmad al-Abdo, a Syrian opposition faction affiliated with the FSA, confessed that a Syrian army commander had helped the faction to move freely.<sup>93</sup>

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<sup>90</sup> <http://ia801506.us.archive.org/16/items/sada21-tip>

<sup>91</sup> <https://justpaste.it/wh6a>

<sup>92</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/CokIRFcXYAA2s-f.jpg>

<sup>93</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47571>

- A video about a Syrian soldier who turned himself in to IS fighters in the area of Bir Qasab in southeast Damascus. The soldier explained that the IS warmly receives those who “repent” and called on more soldiers to defect and join the ranks of the organization.<sup>94</sup> Another video showed more soldiers in Deir Ezzor who turned themselves in to the organization.<sup>95</sup>
- A video about the destruction of a machine gun belonging to regime forces using a guided missile in the village of Awinah, north of Kuwairis airfield.<sup>96</sup>
- Videos regarding the city of Manbij, including attacks by the organization against Kurdish militias in the area as well as the results of a bombing by American planes in southern Manbij.<sup>97</sup>
- A video regarding the destruction of a large shipment of alcohol that was destined for areas under the control of the Syrian regime in Hasaka.<sup>98</sup>
- An announcement regarding the downing of a Syrian Air Force combat plane in the area of Jubb al-Jarrah in the area of the eastern village of Homs.<sup>99</sup>
- A video regarding oil tanks that were set on fire south of Manbij by Kurdish militias.<sup>100</sup>
- An infographic poster summarizing the downing of aircrafts by the organization during a 19-day period (July 5-23). According to the poster, six aircraft were downed throughout Syria during this period: an American drone above Tabqa, an MI35 helicopter above Palmyra, a Syrian helicopter above Eastern Ghouta, a Syrian MiG above Deir Ezzor, an L-39 plane above Jubb al-Jarrah, and another Syrian MiG above Salamiyya in Hamat Province.<sup>101</sup>
- The media departments of the various provinces of the Islamic State in Syria published a wide range of videos and filmed reviews, which dealt with the following issues:
  - A. Battles and Military Deployments:

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<sup>94</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47652>

<sup>95</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48237>

<sup>96</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48012>

<sup>97</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47689>; <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48240>

<sup>98</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47630>

<sup>99</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Cn7Y4luWEAAmD5C.jpg>

<sup>100</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47543>

<sup>101</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CoL-v-tXYAAi5aT-1.jpg>

- Damascus Province: A video regarding battles waged by the IS against the Syrian regime and its allies in order to remove the siege from Eastern Ghouta.<sup>102</sup> In the framework of the video, battles were shown in several arenas in the area, including the town of Utayba, from which the attacks originated, the Tishreen thermal power station in eastern Qalamoun, and the Dumeyr Airport. In addition, the video included criticism against Jaysh al-Islam for coordinating and operating against the Syrian regime as well as accusations against other opposition factions of exploiting the situation of residents to conduct “underhand business” in commodities, while presenting the IS as the savior of the civilians under siege.
- Various provinces: Filmed reviews and videos regarding various operational topics, including: reports of 200 killed among the ranks of Kurdish militias in suicide attacks and other attacks east of Al-Faruq Dam,<sup>103</sup> heavy artillery fire directed at regime forces east of the city of Al-Qaryatayn,<sup>104</sup> an announcement regarding the takeover of two mountains and a village south of Manbij, and the killing of 75 members of Kurdish militia forces,<sup>105</sup> and an announcement regarding the new takeover of Al-Banawi neighborhood in southern Manbij.<sup>106</sup>

B. Executions:

- Raqqa Province: A filmed review regarding the execution of two people accused of spying for the “Crusader coalition”.<sup>107</sup>
- Aleppo Province: An announcement about the crucifixion of a man who was accused of adopting the Khawarij (“Dissenters”) school of thought,

<sup>102</sup> <https://vimeo.com/175274177>

<sup>103</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47551>; <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47621>; <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CnyKGx0WEAMhhN8.jpg>

<sup>104</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CnpkRxoWYAAA7s0.jpg>

<sup>105</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47674>

<sup>106</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CodvEGFWAAA7qHV-1.jpg>

<sup>107</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CnjlFKwXEAAdpjk.jpg>

and allowing the blood of Muslims to be spilled and their property to be stolen in the city of Al-Bab in Aleppo.<sup>108</sup>

C. Propaganda and PR:

- Al-Khayr Province: A video titled, “Those who Obey the Laws of God”, which documented the organization’s activities in imposing Hudud penalties. Among the punishments documented in the video were lashes for consuming alcohol, hand amputation for theft, and executions for giving false testimony, apostasy and “hiraba” (crimes that causes public disruption, such as murder, rape, etc.). The video explained that the Islamic State is making an effort to explain the laws of God to Muslims under its control through its dawah department and mosques but at the same time is required to punish the criminals for all to see, and in order to increase the level of security and reduce the crime rate. The video explained the process of locating the criminals, the police investigation that is carried out, and the gathering of evidence that is finally brought before the judge who makes a ruling in the case only after he sits with the accused and listens to his defense arguments. Then, the Department of Judgement and Grievances examines the judge’s ruling and, if it is approved, the sentence is carried out in public. In addition, the video included criticism of the Saudi government, which only partially implements Hudud penalties (the penalties are only enforced on the weak echelons but not on those with authority) and other Islamist factions that do not implement shari'a in their territories.<sup>109</sup>



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<sup>108</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48145>

<sup>109</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48051>

## The enforcement of shari'a punishments in Al-Khayr Province

- The Yaqeen Media Center, which is involved in publicity for the IS, published an infographic poster in Arabic and English (see photo) containing information about the Khalid bin al-Walid Army, an umbrella organization founded in 2016, which is composed of three jihadist groups in Syria that support the IS. It included mention of its activities for the welfare of the population and its military operations.<sup>110</sup>



An infographic poster regarding the activities of the Khalid bin al-Walid Army

## The Gaza Strip and Sinai Peninsula

### *The IS in the Sinai Peninsula*

- The IS in the Sinai Peninsula published the following:

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<sup>110</sup> [https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=c1063843647\\_7727861658596810299](https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=c1063843647_7727861658596810299)

- A collection of photos documenting the destruction of a “Fahd” armored vehicle belonging to the Egyptian army as a result of driving over an explosive device in southern Al-Arish.<sup>111</sup>



**An Egyptian armored vehicle hit by an IED**

- Photos documenting the assassination of an Egyptian police officer in Al-Arish in the Sinai Peninsula.<sup>112</sup>



**Weapons and an identity card that were taken by IS fighters after the officer's assassination**

## Africa

### ***The Maghreb***

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<sup>111</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47574>

<sup>112</sup> <https://justpaste.it/wlzf>

*Battles continued in Libya and were focused on the city of Sirte, with clashes taking place between government forces and IS fighters.<sup>113</sup> A Libyan security source noted that American fighter aircraft were involved in battles in Sirte,<sup>114</sup> and it was reported that three French soldiers on a reconnaissance mission were killed in eastern Libya after their helicopter was downed by the Benghazi Defense Brigades.<sup>115</sup> It should be noted that the report led to many grievances and accusations against France for violating Libya's sovereignty.<sup>116</sup>*

*In Tunisia, several counter-terrorism operations were reported, including the killing of two militants in an operation by the army in northern Tunisia,<sup>117</sup> a thwarted terrorist attack in Ben Guerdane,<sup>118</sup> and the dismantling of a terror cell with ties to the IS that was allegedly planning an attack in the city of Sousse.<sup>119</sup> In Morocco, it was reported that 52 IS-supporting extremists were arrested,<sup>120</sup> and in Algeria the security services launched a new police department to be tasked with special counter-terrorism operations.<sup>121</sup>*

### ***Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb***

- Al-Ribat jihadist media institution, which belongs to Al-Mourabitoun – a faction of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) - published an announcement signed by Khaled Abu al-Abbas (aka Mokhtar Belmokhtar), the leader of Al-Mourabitoun. In the announcement, Belmokhtar criticized the French air strikes in Libya, praised the residents of Benghazi for standing with them, encouraged the Libyan nation to continue its revolution against the “oppressors”, and warned about the presence of French intelligence officials in southern Libya.<sup>122</sup>

## **Libya**

### ***The Mujahideen Council of Derna***

- The Mujahideen Council of Derna published the following:

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<sup>113</sup> <https://goo.gl/sDqa7w>

<sup>114</sup> <http://www.elfagr.org/2217271>

<sup>115</sup> <https://goo.gl/16DTPG>

<sup>116</sup> <https://goo.gl/ZexM2N>

<sup>117</sup> <https://goo.gl/dnPQkf>

<sup>118</sup> <https://goo.gl/zsTBHA>

<sup>119</sup> <https://goo.gl/JYGvJF>

<sup>120</sup> <https://goo.gl/TOzH1W>

<sup>121</sup> <https://goo.gl/Ir9afS>

<sup>122</sup> <https://goo.gl/4rJ8Y5>; <https://goo.gl/gricCm>

- An announcement regarding soul redemption payments to the families of martyrs in Derna in the amount of 1,775,000 dinars.<sup>123</sup>
- An announcement criticizing a French attack on the city of Benghazi. According to the organization, France's attack was made possible thanks to the cooperation and betrayal of local governments. In addition, the organization called on all Libyan rebels to maintain unity among the ranks and to act against "the traitorous governments, which sold the blood of the Libyan nation and its resources [...]"<sup>124</sup>

### ***The Council of Benghazi Revolutionaries***

- The Markaz al-Saraya jihadist media institution, which belongs to the Council of Benghazi Revolutionaries, published a video by Wisam bin Hamid, a senior military commander in the organization's Shura Council that referred to recent events in Benghazi. Most of the video dealt with criticism of France's military involvement in Libya. It also called on jihadist factions to act against French and all other foreign involvement.<sup>125</sup>

### ***The Islamic State***

- The IS in Baraka Province published the following:
  - An announcement regarding the deaths of three soldiers from Khalifa Haftar's army in Benghazi in an infiltration by IS fighters.<sup>126</sup>
  - A filmed review documenting a suicide attack that was carried out against army forces west of Benghazi. The moment of the explosion was filmed using a drone.<sup>127</sup>

<sup>123</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn4C0K4WEAAoWEJ.jpg>

<sup>124</sup> [https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn6VKQdXEAA\\_cUa.jpg](https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Cn6VKQdXEAA_cUa.jpg)

<sup>125</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHR5Y7VC3Lw>

<sup>126</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CoeYYyUUssAAde3J.jpg>

<sup>127</sup> <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/ConDFyWWIAABy7U.jpg>



**Drone Footage of a suicide attack by the IS west of Benghazi**

- The IS in Tripoli Province published the following:
  - A video regarding battles between the IS and “western backed militias”, including the Libyan army’s “154 Battalion for Defense and Protection”. The attacks included small arms fire and the dispatch of a suicide terrorist in an explosives-ridden vehicle.<sup>128</sup>
  - An announcement regarding the deaths and injuries of over 250 Libya Dawn forces in the city of Sirte in the framework of ambushes and gun battles against IS fighters. The announcement stated that during the battle, the attempted advancement by Libya Dawn fighters from three axes was curbed, several explosives were detonated, and a booby-trapped house exploded.<sup>129</sup> A later announcement reported a suicide attack using a car bomb that was carried out against Libya Dawn forces in Al-Dular, a neighbourhood located in southern Sirte.<sup>130</sup>
  - A filmed review regarding battles in the city of Sirte. The review documented sniper and machine gun fire directed at Libya Dawn forces.<sup>131</sup>

## Mali

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<sup>128</sup> [https://ia801202.us.archive.org/28/items/ndfghazfq\\_mail\\_Haza/Haza.mp4](https://ia801202.us.archive.org/28/items/ndfghazfq_mail_Haza/Haza.mp4)

<sup>129</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Cneqx5GWcAAWV7n.jpg>

<sup>130</sup> [https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Cos4khQXEAA\\_jrG.jpg](https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Cos4khQXEAA_jrG.jpg)

<sup>131</sup> <https://goo.gl/wT403u>

## **Ansar al-Din**

- Al-Rimah jihadist media institution, which belongs to Ansar al-Din, published the following on Telegram:
  - An infographic poster (see photos) in Arabic and English detailing the results of an attack initiated by the organization's fighters against Mali's armed forces in Nampala on July 19, 2016, including the amount and type of loot that was plundered by the organization and the number of enemy soldiers who were killed.<sup>132</sup>



An infographic poster providing information about an attack by the organization against Mali's army

## **Nigeria**

### ***The Islamic State in West Africa***

- The IS in West Africa (formerly Boko Haram) published the following:
  - A claim of responsibility for the killing of 17 Cameroon army soldiers and the looting of their property as a result of an attack carried out by IS fighters in northwest Cameroon.<sup>133</sup>
  - An announcement regarding a withdrawal of Niger and Nigeria military forces' during a raid by IS fighters on the city of Boso in Niger.<sup>134</sup>

<sup>132</sup> <https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=@AlFirdawsChan>.

<sup>133</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47919>

- Amaq news agency, which belongs to the IS, published an infographic poster detailing the results of an attack carried out by IS fighters against the Nigerian and Niger armies on June 3, 2016 in Boso, Niger. The poster included details about the loot that was plundered by the organization's fighters.<sup>135</sup>



An infographic poster detailing the loot plundered by IS fighters in a battle in Boso in June 2016

## Somalia

*During the second half of July 2016, attacks by Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen continued against Somali security forces and soldiers operating in the framework of the African Union Force in Somalia. In this framework, Al-Shabab fighters detonated two car bombs at the entrance to an African Union Force base in Mogadishu, killing 13 people.<sup>136</sup> In addition, at the end of the month Al-Shabab fighters detonated two car bombs outside the headquarters of the Criminal Investigation*

<sup>134</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47919>

<sup>135</sup> [https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=c1057510583\\_16897936225701346342](https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=c1057510583_16897936225701346342)

<sup>136</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/huge-blasts-heard-airport-somalia-mogadishu-160726035504889.html> (English).

*Department in Mogadishu and then stormed the building with gunfire, killing at least ten people.<sup>137</sup> As a result of the attacks in Mogadishu, the US declared its commitment to stand by Somalia in its war against terrorist organizations, including Al-Shabab.<sup>138</sup> At the same time as the attacks in Mogadishu, clashes continued between Al-Shabab fighters and Somali security forces and the African Union Force in the Lower Shebelle region, located in southern Somalia.<sup>139</sup>*

### ***Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen***

- Al-Kataib jihadist media institution, which belongs to Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen (Al-Qaeda's branch in Somalia), published a report regarding the scope of its military operations during June-July 2016. For example, it claimed responsibility for a series of attacks against Kenyan army soldiers and Somali government personnel, the capture of several areas in Somalia, and more.<sup>140</sup>

### **The Indian Subcontinent**

- Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent published an announcement titled, "Message to the Mujahid Nation of Kashmir". In the announcement, the organization praised Burhan Wadi (1984-2016), the leader of the "mujahideen party", a Salafi-jihadist faction in Kashmir, who was killed in July 2016 as a result of clashes with Indian security forces. The organization called on Muslims living in Kashmir to follow in Wadi's footsteps and initiate attacks against Indian security forces inspired by his legacy. According to the organization, jihad is the only solution to the problem facing Muslims in Kashmir. In addition, it recommended several modus operandi for attacks, such as using Molotov cocktails, knives, daggers and iron bars.<sup>141</sup>

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<sup>137</sup> <http://www.skynews.com.au/news/world/africa/2016/07/31/attack-launched-by-al-shabaab-in-somalia.html> (English).

<sup>138</sup> <https://sputniknews.com/africa/20160726/1043641928/us-somalia-al-shabaab.html>

<sup>139</sup> <http://allafrica.com/stories/201607181289.html>

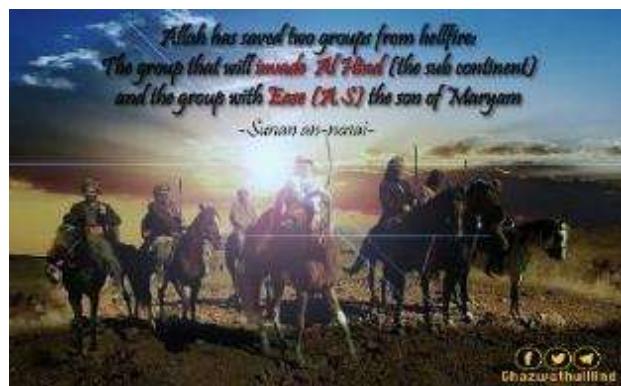
<sup>140</sup> <https://justpaste.it/wk02>

<sup>141</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com;> <https://justpaste.it/khorasan2kashmir>



**Burhan Wadi**

- A Twitter account titled, “Ghazwat al-Hind” (“The Raid on the Indian Subcontinent”), which is affiliated with Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent, criticized India for the oppression displayed by Indian security forces against Muslims in Kashmir.<sup>142</sup>



The photo, which was published on the above-mentioned Twitter account, cites the ancient Muslim tradition heralding the entry of Muslim armies to the Indian Subcontinent

## The West

- Furat jihadist media institution, which belongs to the IS, published the last will and testament of Abu Walid al-Baljiki, one of the perpetrators of the terrorist attack in Paris in December 2015.<sup>143</sup>

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<sup>142</sup> <https://twitter.com/GhazwathulHind/status/756115010439487488>

<sup>143</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com>

Il est à la Mosquée ou aux funérailles à la construction d'un pont. Après tout, ils sont chrétiens ! Mais : Quelle monnaie change que vous nous veux donner, si vous êtes chrétiens [sic]. Trop tôt, trop tôt qui essayez-vous de me tromper ? Oh mes frères, soyez sur quand la communauté de l'Islamique est dans un tel état, lequel devient une obligation individuelle pour d'assumer, mais comme il a été dit :

Je salut par les bras de ceux qui sont complètement devant les malédictions, si vous êtes vraiment croisants ! Et maintenant que c'est les combattants Al-Khalidies ? Que nous les intriquons par plusieurs voies pour nous servir de jeu et à qui on a manipulé l'esprit ? On peut décliner ce mouvement, nous nous pourrions l'ignorer jusqu'à ce que vous n'effacez les bombardements israéliens et barbares et faites vos bâtons nos frères et soyez imprégnés chez vous.

Je renouvelle mon allégeance au commandant des armées, le Calife Ibrahim, et je rappelle à ne pas oublier avec prudence des armées du Prophète, à nous tous, Dieus le unique perdurera et pour la paix messie d'Allah, plus que tout, l'ame évidente, l'ame intérieure, puissent se faire.

Et tout autre décret des combattants, qu'il soit à l'enveloppe de la Monarchie et de l'Amirauté (Al-Khalidie). Vous avez certainement pris grand des épreuves. Et en plus de cela, ceux qui sont morts se cachent avec leurs femmes dans leur village sous la protection de l'ennemi. Certes, le peuple se fait passer pour un homme du bien et l'autre place, on le fait passer pour un peuple haine à leur patrie et pour une confiance en Allah, on le voit au contraire. Pourquoi le Secours d'Allah, le Secours d'Allah est proche ! [cf. Coran 2:243] Oui, sur l'ordre et l'ordre de Dieu, nous devons nous unir au combat pour la victoire de l'Islam et l'Islam. Oui, Allah va nous faire descendre la Ligue qui est la plus grande alliance. Nous sommes les combattants de Dieu et attendons d'Allah "Parmi de la meilleure dont tu veux". Chacun de nous devrait être un chemin droit.

Et pour terminer ce Allah la récompense ! Parce que les "frères" veulent être fidèles pour tout ce que vous avez mérité et mérité, nous allons à votre côté Alléluia ! tout les frères sur la terre du Dieu. Et nous savons ce destin qui a tous les hommes.

La louange soit à Allah, le Seigneur des mondes.



### The last will and testament of Abu Walid al-Baljiki

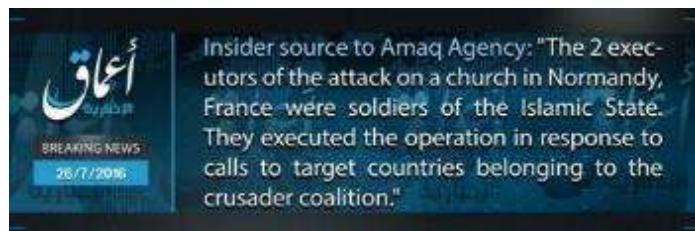
- Amaq jihadist news agency, which belongs to the IS, published the following:
  - A video by Mohammad Daleel, the terrorist who carried out the shooting attack in Ansbach, Germany, in which 15 people were injured. In the video, Daleel renewed his oath of allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, described the attack as a response to Germany's participation in coalition attacks in Syrian and Iraq, made threats against the German nation and encouraged IS fighters in Europe to carry out additional attacks.<sup>144</sup>



A claim of responsibility for the attack in Ansbach, Germany, published by the IS Amaq news agency

<sup>144</sup> <https://archive.org/details/AMAQ25072016>

- A claim of responsibility for a ramming attack in Nice. An announcement by the Amaq news agency stated: “A security source reported to the Amaq agency that the perpetrator of the ramming attack in Nice, France, was a soldier of the Islamic State. He carried out the attack in response to calls to attack citizens of coalition countries that are fighting against the Islamic State.”<sup>145</sup>
- An announcement according to which the perpetrators of the attack at a church in Normandy in which the pastor, Jacques Hamel, was killed were two “soldiers of the Islamic State [who] executed the operation in response to calls to target countries belonging to the crusader coalition”. A video was later published containing an oath of allegiance to al-Baghdadi by the two perpetrators of the attack, Adel Kermiche and Abdel Malik Petitjean, as well as a video by the latter separately in which he encouraged the execution of additional attacks against citizens of the coalition.<sup>146</sup>



**A claim of responsibility for an attack at a church in Normandy published by the IS Amaq news agency**

- A claim of responsibility for an attack on train passengers in the city of Würzburg, Germany, by a 17-year-old Afghan refugee. The announcement stated that the attack was carried out in response to coalition attacks against the IS, using an axe and knife “in the style of the stabbing attacks against Jews in the streets of Palestine”.<sup>147</sup>
- An infographic poster summarizing the prominent attacks carried out by the organization against citizens of coalition countries. Above a map of the world showing

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<sup>145</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47528>

<sup>146</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/CoS1qDnWcAASbTs.jpg>; <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48270>; <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48328>

<sup>147</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/47706>

the distribution of the attack, a graph detailed the total number of people killed in each attack, led by Paris, Nice and Orlando.<sup>148</sup>

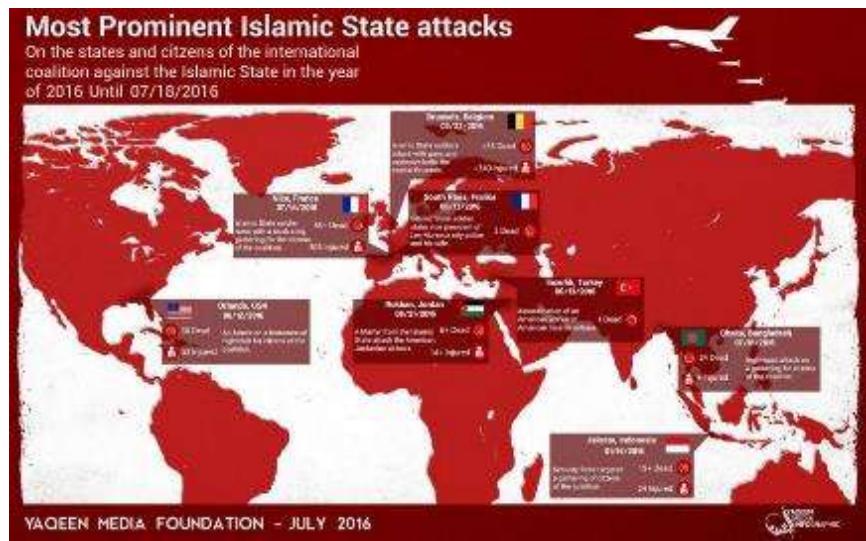


Prominent IS attacks against citizens of coalition countries

- The Yaqeen Media Center, which is involved in publicity for the IS, published an infographic poster in Arabic and English of the main IS-inspired attacks that were carried out against the countries participating in the battle against the organization since the beginning of 2016 until July 18, 2016.<sup>149</sup>

<sup>148</sup> <https://dawaalhaq.com/post/48156>

<sup>149</sup> <https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=@Yaqeenmedia10>



The main terrorist attacks carried out by the IS against countries participating in the coalition against the organization

- The media institution of the Sons of the Caliphate Army, which supports the IS, published a video in French titled, “XX-XX-2016”, which featured images of Muslims who were killed, allegedly by France, and threatened to take revenge on France for its “crimes” against Muslims.<sup>150</sup>
- Supporters of the IS and media groups that support the organization continued to publish threats to attack targets in the West (see the following photos) due to the participation of western countries in the war against the organization.<sup>151</sup>



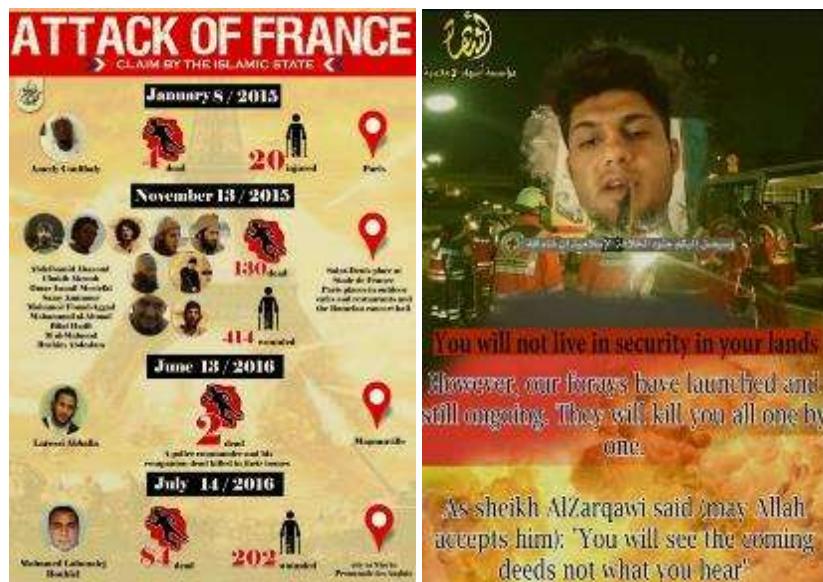
<sup>150</sup> <https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=@brigadetosupportAnsar>

<sup>151</sup> <https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=@Yaqeenmedia10>;  
[https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=c1063886533\\_13140163459519028915.%5D](https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=c1063886533_13140163459519028915.%5D)

**Photos displaying threats to attack various targets in Western Europe and the US**



**Threats to attack in Germany and words of praise for Muhammad Dalil**



**From left to right: mention of the names of IS supporters who carried out attacks in France; words of praise for the terrorist in Nice**



### Words of praise for the attack in a church in Normandy

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The Jihadi Websites Monitoring Group (JWMG) is a specialized research and analysis team at the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT). Composed of researchers fluent in Arabic, the JWMG monitors websites that support and serve the Global Jihad organizations. The unique characteristic of JWMG publications is the team's integration of diverse materials from a wide variety of Arabic sources. JWMG connects each source to larger trends, providing a complete understanding of events on both a local and a global scale.

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