



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 October 2014

Highlights

This report summarizes notable events discussed on jihadist Web forums during the second half of October 2014. Following are the main points covered in the report:

- Al-Qaeda publishes a new magazine in English titled, “Resurgence”. According to the editor, it is designed to focus on propaganda regarding Muslims living in the Indian Subcontinent and to awaken the spirit of jihad against the regimes in this region. Other topics that are covered in the issue include: allocating resources and concentrating efforts on damaging the Western economy by increasing maritime terrorist attacks against commercial vessels in maritime trade routes.
- The Islamic State and its supporters are waging a psychological war against coalition forces, led by the United States. For example, Islamic State fighters threaten to attack Western civilians and targets, including France, as long as the war continues. In a propaganda video published by the organization, captive British journalist John Cantlie appeals to the West to stop its attacks because, among other reasons, it is doomed to fail.
- Jund al-Khilafa, a Salafi-jihadist organization in Algeria that supports the Islamic State, threatens to kill a French citizen who is being held captive by the organization if France does not end its battle against Islamic State militants in Iraq and Syria.
- The Al-Nusra Front, Al-Qaeda’s affiliate in Syria, threatens to kill Lebanese soldiers being held captive by the organization. In order to spare their lives, the organization demands that the Lebanese army lift the siege from the city of Tripoli and stop its aggression against the local Sunni population.
- Ajnad Misr, a jihadist organization operating in Egypt, announces the establishment of a media wing called Al-Kinana, to be responsible for posting publicity materials. The new media institution’s first publications include a claim of responsibility for terrorist attacks against Egyptian security forces.
- A member of the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum publishes a collection of tips for Muslims who are interested in assassinating senior security officials in Muslim and Western countries but are not equipped with the firearms needed for this purpose. The tips include following the assassination targets and throwing Molotov cocktails at their cars or buildings.

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New Publications

Ideology

- The Al-Malahem jihadist media institution, which serves as the official mouthpiece of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), launched a new series of publications titled, “The Only Nation: Rights and Obligations”, based on a series of religious lessons by Sheikh Harith bin Ghazi al-Nadhari, a senior member of the organization’s Sharia Council.¹
- The Sariyyat al-Malhama media group, which helps handle publicity for the Islamic State, published an article titled, “The Cries of Horses in Light of the Spread of Islam through Arrows and Swords” by Ahmad Badawi Abu Daud al-Safari. The article justified the use of jihad to attack non-Muslims in order to spread Islam. The article brought proof from holy Islamic sources such as the Quran and Sunnah in order to support the concept that Islam was spread throughout history mainly thanks to the power of the sword. Therefore, the author claimed that it was legitimate to continue along this path.²



The video banner

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Al-Raqqah Province published a video titled, “Meeting with a Martyr – Part 2” in which a member of the organization, Abu Muadh al-Misri, called on Muslims to move to Iraq and Syria in order to fulfill the commandment of jihad. In addition, he called on Muslims to adhere to the Quran and the Sunnah, and to return to the correct path.³

¹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

² <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

³ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).



The video banner

The Rift between Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State

- Sheikh Abu Mariyya al-Qahtani, head of the Shura Council of the Al-Nusra Front, Al-Qaeda's affiliate in Syria, published a statement regarding AQAP's announcement of coalition attacks in Iraq and Syria. Al-Qahtani expressed agreement with AQAP to act against the threat posed by coalition forces but he emphasized that the organization was wrong to state that the Islamic State is not considered *Khawarij* (a term that refers to the first sect to split from Islam due to its unwillingness to accept another interpretation of Islam and that used force to impose its faith). Al-Qahtani noted that Al-Qaeda's statements raised concern that it supports the actions of Islamic State fighters who murder mujahideen and their commanders; "we have not found that our brothers in Al-Qaeda in Yemen issued a condemnation of al-Baghdadi's gang's crimes in killing the best of the mujahideen and their commanders. We did not [find] a clear stance taken by our brothers in Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula [on the subject]." Al-Qahtani further clarified that IS fighters were responsible for the killing of many Al-Nusra Front fighters. In light of this, al-Qahtani demanded that AQAP re-examine their message and position concerning al-Baghdadi's group and its failure to view them as *Khawarij*. Al-Qahtani also asked AQAP to issue an unequivocal clarification of its position concerning "he who curses our and your emir, Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri", he who declares the establishment of a caliphate, and he who does not recognize and fights against other jihadist groups. According to him, although the proper position to take is to sanctify war against the Crusader enemy, namely the coalition forces, one

must remember that this position does not mean recognition or acceptance of the Islamic State.⁴

Oaths of Allegiance to the Islamic State

- The Al-Wagha jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with the IS, published a collection of questions and answers regarding the oath of allegiance. Among the issues discussed in the publication: what is the oath of allegiance, what is the sentence for those who violate it, is it an obligation to swear allegiance to the caliph, do a certain number of people need to be present in order to make the oath of allegiance, and other issues.⁵
- The Taliban in Pakistan renounced the oath of allegiance to the IS made by several of its former members. Six senior members of the organization had recently declared that they were swearing allegiance to the Islamic Caliphate led by Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi; in light of this, the organization clarified that Sheikh Maqbool Shaahidullah Shaahid, one of those who had declared an oath of allegiance, was no longer the spokesman for the organization. Regarding the oath of allegiance itself, it emphasized that the leader of the Taliban, Mullah Fazlullah, had already clarified that the organization's loyalty was to the emir of the believers, Mullah Omar. In addition, it stated that the organization would soon announce the appointment of a new spokesman.⁶
- The Al-I'tisam jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with the IS, published a video titled, "Join Shari'a". In the video, which opened with an oath of allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, several masked Uzbek militants called for Muslims from Transoxiana (the ancient name for Central Asia, including Uzbekistan and Tajikistan) to emigrate and join jihad among the ranks of the IS. At the end of the video, one of the speakers announced that he left the Imam Bukhari Brigade and officially joined the IS.⁷

⁴ <https://fidaa1.net/vb> (Arabic).

⁵ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁶ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁷ <http://theshamnews.com/?p=316> (Arabic).



Uzbek militants swearing allegiance to the Islamic State

- The Abtal al-Islam jihadist media institution, which represents a group of jihad fighters from Afghanistan, published a video in which it expressed support for the IS on the part of the group's leader, Sheikh Abu Dajaneh al-Afghani, from Khorasan.⁸



The video banner

Women and Jihad

- The Al-Ghuraba jihadist media institution, which helps publish materials for the IS, published an article titled, "I [Supported] the Islamic State Even Before the Islamic State was Established". The article was written by Dr. Ayman Mustafa al-Bagha, a former member of the teaching faculty at the University of Dammam. The introduction of the article stated that the author had left her teaching position and high salary in order to emigrate and join the ranks of the Islamic State. In the article, the author noted that the tragedies that befell the Muslim Nation did not receive an appropriate response. According to her, Muslim scholars failed to find a solution to the acute problems facing Muslims, such as the Palestinian issue that they haven't discussed for 60 years. In light of this, the author emphasized that jihad is the only way to guarantee relief for

⁸ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic); <https://twitter.com/abtalulislam/status/524634005292204032> (Arabic).

Muslims and a solution to their problems. Finally, she emphasized that her outlook and path are conducive to those of the Islamic State.⁹

Strategy

- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum published a collection of tips for Muslims who are interested in assassinating senior security officials in Muslim and Western countries but are not equipped with the firearms needed for this purpose. For example, the visitor suggested following a certain security official to his home and then attacking him by striking him in the head or burning his house or car for the sake of deterrence. In addition, the visitor suggested throwing Molotov cocktails into security officials' cars. For this reason, he published a guidebook on how to build Molotov cocktails. In addition, the visitor recommended that Muslims living in the West kidnap passerby, slaughter them in a pre-determined location and distribute a video clip of the murder on social networks. According to him, it is very important to maintain discretion in order for the operation to succeed.¹⁰



The banner posted by the visitor titled, “Tips for Punishment for Those Who Do Not Have Bullets”

- Another visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum named Abu al-Ahnaf al-Shaybani called on Muslims who identify with the idea of jihad, in particular in Saudi Arabia, to assassinate security officials and Christian tourists of various nationalities, especially Americans

⁹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

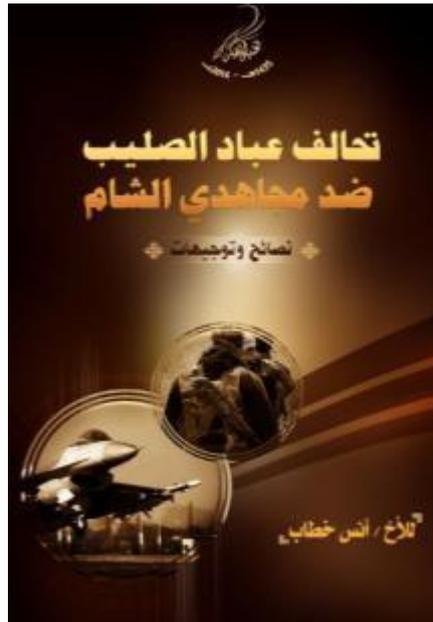
¹⁰ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

and Britons. According to him, it is recommended to follow assassination targets during daylight and attack them at night with a gun or knife, using a motorcycle to get away.¹¹

- The Nukhbat al-Fikr jihadist media group published an article titled, “The Crusader Alliance against the Mujahideen of the Levant: Advice and Intentions” by Anas Khatab, who seems to be a jihadist in Syria. According to the writer, the war being waged by the coalition, led by the United States, against the Islamic State is the continuation of the ancient historic war between the forces of lies and the forces of truth. According to him, the war is not directed only against members of the IS but against members of every jihadist organization, including the Al-Nusra Front and Al-Muhajirin wal-Ansar. “The interest of the Crusader alliance is not to wipe out the [Islamic] State but to wipe out Sunni jihad first and foremost [...]”. The IS only serves as a catalyst in order to wage war against Islam and wipe out jihad. Therefore, all mujahideen and Muslims must take into account several points, including:
 - Waging jihad is the personal obligation of every able-bodied Muslim living in Iraq and Syria.
 - Every Muslim living outside of Iraq and Syria must help the mujahideen with funding, publicity, and the construction of a recruitment infrastructure in the country of origin to be responsible for sending Muslims to Iraq and Syria.
 - All jihadist factions must rise above the disagreements between them, focus on fighting against the Crusader forces and defend the Muslim Nation.
 - Efforts should be focused on ending the fighting between jihad factions in the Levant and Iraq.
 - One should be alert to propaganda being waged by the Crusader forces, led by the United States, aimed at sowing division and dissension among the various factions.
 - One must exercise safety and security precautions and use the media in a secure fashion. For example, it is best not to discuss military and administrative issues on social networks like WhatsApp.¹²

¹¹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

¹² <https://fidaa1.net/vb> (Arabic).



The article banner

Guidebooks and Instruction Pamphlets

- A member of the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum published an article advising how to successfully bring down an Apache helicopter.¹³



The banner reads: “How to bring down an Apache helicopter”

- A member of the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum published five guidebooks on assembling chemical bombs.¹⁴

Promoting the Myth of the Martyr

¹³ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

¹⁴ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Baghdad published parts two and three in the framework of a series of publications titled, “This is My Last Will and Testament”. The second part documented a suicide attack by a member of the organization named Abu Aysha al-Husayni al-Qurashi against Iraqi security forces and displayed his will praising the fulfilment of the commandment to wage jihad.¹⁵ The third part documented an attack by another member of the organization named Umar al-Shami against Iraqi security forces.¹⁶



The banners of the publication series “This is My Last Will and Testament”

Magazines

- The Al-Sahab jihadist media institution, the official media institution of the Al-Qaeda leadership, launched a new magazine under the English title, “Resurgence” (117 pp.). The issue’s opening article praised the expansion of arena of jihad from Afghanistan since 2011 into other areas such as Iraq, the Levant, North Africa and even the Indian Subcontinent. It stated:

“It is our hope that the blood of our martyrs in Afghanistan and Pakistan will pave the way for the liberation of Muslims from Kashmir to Arakan and the establishment of the Shariah as the supreme authority throughout the Indian Subcontinent”.

The introduction emphasized that the magazine aims to focus primarily on Muslims in the Indian Subcontinent but also to encourage Muslims around the world to act against the United States, the primary enemy of Muslims and Islam.

Other articles in the issue included: details of the targets of an attack by Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent against an American ship; a focus on the policies of persecution against Muslims by the regimes in Pakistan, India, Bangladesh and Burma; Islamic traditions regarding

¹⁵ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

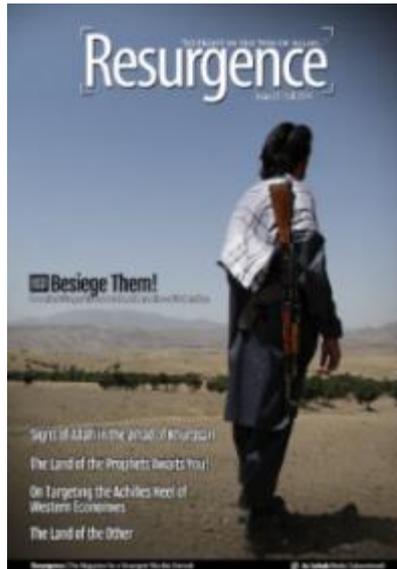
¹⁶ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

apocalyptic signs that predict a Muslim victory over its enemies; articles in praise of martyrdom; details about the life of Sheikh Osama bin Laden – the founder of Al-Qaeda – according to the memories of Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri; the importance of fulfilling the commandment to wage jihad in Syria; an article about eastern Turkestan and the persecution of Muslims in that region of the world at the hands of the Sunni regime; an article about the Palestinian issue and a call to liberate Palestine from Israel; the use of drones by the Pakistani army against the Muslim population; the status of Muslims in India; an article regarding the establishment of an Islamic monetary system as a replacement for the capitalist system; an article regarding the need to concentrate efforts on damaging the economies of the Western world as a way to disrupt international trade and maritime routes, an article regarding guerrilla warfare strategies, and more.¹⁷

The new magazine indicates a growing trend of publishing journals in English due to the desire to reach additional audiences in the West and to compete with the IS to win the hearts of Muslims in the West. It seems that the traditional Al-Qaeda leadership is being dragged into the field and insisting on publishing materials in English, like Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen. However, it seems that the leadership is having difficulty implementing this based on the long period of time that passed between the promo launched ahead of the issue's publication in March 2014 and its publication in October 2014.

The central message emerging from the new journal is reflected in its focus on the importance of attacking the distant enemy in light of the opening of new arenas of operation in the Indian subcontinent and the search for weak points to serve as Western targets in maritime trade routes.

¹⁷ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).



The magazine issue banner

- The Taliban in Afghanistan published issue no. 103 of “*Al-Sumood*” magazine. The magazine’s articles covered various topics, including: the implementation of shari’a as a source for restoring security in the country, the damage caused to the United States and Britain as a result of their interference in Afghanistan, an article against Ashraf Ghani – the new President of Afghanistan, and a statistical report about the operations carried out by the organization during the month of October.¹⁸
- The Taliban in Pakistan published its first issue in English titled, “*Ihya-e Khilafat*” (“The Resurrection of the Caliphate”) (29 pp.). According to issue’s opening article, the Crusader forces are suffering defeat after defeat at the hands of the mujahideen, as proved by the opening of new areas of jihad in places such as Libya and Mali. It also stated that the organization strives to establish an Islamic Caliphate across the globe and to fight the infidel forces led by the heretic Pakistani regime. The magazine was previously published in Urdu for four years but, according to the article, it was decided to make it accessible to English speakers due to the false propaganda campaign being waged against the organization by the Pakistani regime and the international media. The magazine’s articles covered various topics, including: statements by leaders of the organization regarding its re-structuring; the Pakistani army and its

¹⁸ <https://ia902605.us.archive.org/12/items/alsomood103/103.pdf>

involvement in corruption; an interview with a senior member of the organization; the life story of one of the organization's fighters who left Britain in order to join the ranks of the organization; and the building of Pakistani state institutions after shari'a was implemented.¹⁹



The magazine issue banner

- The Islamic State published issues 15-18 of the newsletter, *Al-Naba*. The newsletters summarized the organization's operations in Iraq between October 14-25, including: attacks using car bombs, the detonation of explosives targeting military vehicles, the assassination of army and police officers, and mortar fire directed at groups of Shi'ite militias.²⁰

Reports from the Field

Afghanistan-Pakistan

An important milestone was noted in the Afghan arena: On October 26, 2014 the United States and Britain evacuated their last remaining bases in Afghanistan. After 13 years of fighting, during which thousands of NATO soldiers were killed, soldiers in the British army and the US Marine Corps handed over control of their last two bases to Afghan security forces. According to the agreement signed with elected Afghan President, Ashraf Ghani, approximately 10,000 American

¹⁹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

²⁰ <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

*soldiers will remain in Afghanistan in order to train local forces.*²¹

*There was heavy friction in Pakistan between security forces and Islamist militants. On October 17, 2014 two Iranian soldiers and one Pakistani soldier were killed in an exchange of gunfire on the border, as part of the battle being waged by Iran against Sunni rebels in Balochistan who Iran claims are trying to infiltrate into the country.*²² *On October 23, 2014 eight Pakistani Shi'ites belonging to the Hazara minority were shot and killed by four gunmen who opened fire at a bus near a vegetable market. To date, no group has claimed responsibility for the attack.*²³

*On October 17, 2014 the Pakistani army reported that it had killed at least nine gunmen affiliated with Al-Qaeda at the Khyber Pass, next to the border with Afghanistan; the attack place in the framework of the Pakistani army's large-scale military operation against Islamist militants in Waziristan.*²⁴ *On October 26, 2014 the Pakistani army reported that it had killed eight more Islamists affiliated with the Taliban in a series of air strikes in the same area. It also announced that a huge weapons cache was destroyed in the attack.*²⁵

The Arabian Peninsula

Yemen is mired in a civil war and the security situation in the country continued to deteriorate. The control held by Shi'ite Houthi militias, supported by Iran, of several power bases in the country including the capital of Sana'a, increased concern over a loss of power and economy, the transformation of Yemen into a pawn of Iran, and spreading Shia in the country among Sunni tribes. Al-Qaeda exploited the social climate and the feelings of anger among Sunni tribes in order to form an alliance with them in the framework of the war of attrition against the Houthis. In the cities of Rada, Al-Adin, Amran and Sana'a, Al-Qaeda militants carried out a series of assassinations of Houthis using surprise attacks, car bomb explosions and roadside charge explosions. As a result of these attacks, dozens of Houthis were killed, including senior officers. Fierce battles took place between the two camps, including in the city of Qayfah, which is considered a stronghold of the Al-

²¹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/26/us-afghanistan-troopwithdrawal-idUSKBN0IF06I20141026> (English).

²² <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138622>

²³ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/23/us-pakistan-killings-idUSKCN0IC0KE20141023> (English).

²⁴ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/17/us-pakistan-offensive-idUSKCN0I617L20141017> (English).

²⁵ <http://news.yahoo.com/pakistan-air-strikes-kill-18-militants-military-073304109.html> (English).

Dhahab tribe. Most members of the tribe who joined Al-Qaeda took part in the fighting and managed to drive out the Houthis from the area. Nevertheless, the Houthis continued to maintain their power in areas under their control despite the wave of attacks.²⁶ In addition, it seems that the Houthis were looking to prepare the ground for a political coup due to the pressures on the Yemeni regime to establish a new government. At a conference that was held at the end of October, the Houthis demanded that President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi form a new government within ten days.²⁷

The conciliatory policies of the Yemeni government vis-à-vis the Houthis increased the criticism of the government and the army among opposition circles, which believe that the two are conspiring with one another. For example, activists posted on social networks that the Yemeni army is conducting aerial sorties in areas where there are Al-Qaeda fighters and the tribes that support them instead of dealing with the threat posed by the Houthis.²⁸



Regions of Houthi influence in Yemen²⁹

²⁶ <http://www.erehnews.com/?id=73095>

²⁷ <http://alhayat.com/Articles/5293542/> الحوثيون يقتحمون معقل القاعدة وسط اليمن (Arabic).

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ <http://www.aljazeera.net/file/get/3ebb4d40-97d5-4c08-b8c3-ac30df8274d5>

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula

- During the second half of October 2014, the Al-Malahem jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), published the following:
 - A recorded speech by Ibrahim Rubaish, a senior religious figure in the organization. In the framework of his speech, Rubaish emphasized the prohibition against assisting infidels as allies and claimed that the infidels will continue to fight against Muslims forever in order to cause them to abandon their religion. In addition, Rubaish accused the Saudi regime of supporting attacks against Muslims in Iraq and Syria due to Saudi religious clerics who declared members of the IS to be infidels. At the end of his speech, Rubaish called on every Muslim to support Muslims in light of the attacks, whether through actual jihad or through monetary support and words of encouragement.³⁰
 - A video in which members of the organization were seen singing war songs before going out to fight against the Houthis, the Shi'ite minority in Yemen supported by Iran. The video was published in the framework of a series of publications titled, "From the Field".³¹
- AQAP published an announcement titled, "A Statement Regarding the Crusader Alliance". In the statement (no. 86), the organization described the attack by the global alliance against its brothers in the IS as callous and indiscriminate. AQAP emphasized that it opposes the Crusader alliance and supports its brothers who are fighting against it. In addition, the organization called on all factions in Iraq and Syria to end their internal battles and emphasized that there is no truth to the assertion that some of those fighting in Iraq and Syria are infidels who left Islam (clearly hinting at support of the Islamic State).³²

Ansar al-Sharia

- On October 24, 2014 Ansar al-Sharia, which is affiliated with AQAP, in Marib and Al-Jawf Provinces in northern Yemen, published a report detailing its dawah activities against the

³⁰ <http://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

³¹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

³² <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

Houthis in Yemen. According to Ansar al-Sharia, its dawah activities are mainly focused on presenting the Shi'ite faith of the Houthis in a disgraceful light, warning Sunnis of the danger posed to them by the Houthis, revealing the ways in which the Houthis expand their influence in Yemen, and urging Sunni tribes to wage jihad against the Houthis.³³



Members of Ansar al-Sharia preparing dawah pamphlets to be distributed in Marib and Al-Jawf Provinces in northern Yemen

Other Jihadist Organizations

- The Al-Hussam jihadist media institution published an article titled, “Chaos in the Jihadist Media...So That Yemen Should Not Be a Second Levant” by Muhnid Ghulab. The article referred to publications by media institutions belonging to various jihadist organizations in Syria, such as the IS and the Al-Nusra Front. According to him, the media serves as another arena of jihad against the enemy, no less important than the battle in the field. Nevertheless, there is great concern for the safety of the mujahideen due to the photos and videos that they are posting to social networks since the enemy uses them in order to obtain intelligence information and gain a clear picture of the situation on the ground in order to attack targets in Iraq and Syria. According to the writer, recent months have seen a significant deterioration in the security situation in Yemen and an increased use of drones against the mujahideen in Yemen. Therefore, the writer emphasized that all mujahideen in Yemen must maintain information security and refrain from publishing photos of

³³ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

mujahideen or their locations in order to preserve their personal safety and make it difficult for the enemy to carry out operations.³⁴

Iraq

The continued fighting in Iraq further exacerbated the refugee problem in the country. According to an official announcement by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), there are currently 1.26 million refugees in the country and the situation of many of them is liable to worsen with the coming of winter.³⁵ The refugee movement in especially significant in Al-Anbar Province where approximately 1,000 families were uprooted from Hīt District to Haditha District.³⁶

In light of the difficult situation, the Iraqi government passed a bill to establish a “National Guard” to fight against the IS. According to the plan, the new entity will operate in parallel to the army and the police force, and will be subject to the authority of the province rulers and sheikhs in the various tribes.³⁷ The plan to establish a “National Guard” stirred controversy among various political forces in Iraq – many of which opposed arming the tribes with advanced weapons as their loyalty to the Iraqi government is in doubt.³⁸

The month of October ended with a call by Shi’ite leader, Ali Sistani, on the government of Iraq to help the Sunni tribes fighting against the IS.³⁹ This declaration came after members of the IS killed between dozens to hundreds of members of the Abu Nimer Sunni tribe, which opposed the

³⁴ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

³⁵ <http://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2405774&Language=en>

³⁶ <http://www.assabeel.net/arab-and-world/item/72289-%D9%88%D8%B5%D9%88%D9%84-%D8%A3%D9%84%D9%81-%D8%A3%D8%B3%D8%B1%D8%A9-%D9%87%D8%AC%D9%91%D8%B1%D9%87%D8%A7-%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%B4-%D8%A5%D9%84%D9%89-%D9%82%D8%B6%D8%A7%D8%A1-%D8%AD%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%AB%D8%A9-%D8%BA%D8%B1%D8%A8%D9%8A-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%82>

³⁷ <http://alhayat.com/Articles/5191284/%D9%85%D8%A7-%D9%87%D9%8A-%D8%B9%D9%82%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%AA%D8%B4%D9%83%D9%8A%D9%84--%D8%AD%D8%B1%D8%B3-%D9%88%D8%B7%D9%86%D9%8A--%D8%AC%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%AF-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%82%D8%9F>

³⁸ <http://www.alquds.co.uk/?p=238450>

³⁹ <http://www.middle-east-online.com/?id=187163>

organization's control in the province.⁴⁰

The Islamic State

- The jihadist media institution of the Islamic State, Al-Furqan, published two additional videos (chapters four and five) in the series titled, “Lend Me Your Ears - Messages from the British Detainee John Cantlie”. In the fourth chapter, Cantlie referred to the coalition that was established in order to fight against the IS. According to him, the coalition itself was doomed to fail. He added that President Obama had refused to send American forces to Iraq and that the Pentagon had admitted that the air strikes did not prove themselves in the fight against the organization. Meanwhile, the United States sent 1,200 additional soldiers to join its forces in Baghdad in order to protect the American Embassy and the airport. Cantlie expressed surprise at the US government's interest in the fate of the Yazidi minority in Iraq whose people were slaughtered by members of the Islamic State. According to him, the organization is taking enjoyment from the disagreements and disputes among American diplomats regarding the organization's meteoric rise. Finally, he mocked the coalition's efforts to break the power of the organization.⁴¹

In the fifth chapter, Cantlie noted that he and other Western prisoners held captive by the IS are treated well by the organization. However, according to him, several prisoners were tortured for trying to escape. Cantlie accused the US and British governments of unwillingness to hold negotiations to free the captives, while prisoners from other nationalities in Europe were freed from captivity as a result of negotiations that their countries held to secure their release.⁴²



The video banner

⁴⁰<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/news/middle-east/15013-isis-executes-dozens-of-sahawat-fighters-and-iraqi-soldiers>

⁴¹<https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁴²<https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

- The IS published an announcement by the “Shariah Committee for Crescent Observation and Hijri Calendar”. The announcement declared the establishment of a “Caliphate Calendar” based on hijraic dates and the determination of the beginning of each month according to the new moon.⁴³
- The Al-I’tisam jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with the IS, published the following:
 - Video no. 3 in the series titled, “Message of the Mujahid”. In the video, an IS fighter, speaking in French, threatened that if France continues its war against the organization in Iraq and Syria it will be dealt a painful blow on its soil just like the terrorist attack carried out by Mohamed Merah, a Muslim French citizen who carried out an attack in Toulouse, France in 2012. In addition, the fighter called on Muslims in France to kill French civilians and strike various targets on French soil. Later in the video, other IS fighters addressed the coalition forces and swore that they would be defeated in their war against the organization and Islam.⁴⁴



The video banner

- Video no. 4 in the series titled, “Message of the Mujahid”. In the video, an IS fighter from Australia known as Abu Khaled made threats against the West in light of Western attacks against the IS in Syria and Iraq. Among other things, Abu Khaled personally threatened the President of the United States, Barack Obama, and the Prime Minister of Australia, Tony Abbott, while promising that the mujahideen would cut off the heads of the tyrants

⁴³ <http://f22a7.tumblr.com/post/101141636992>

⁴⁴ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

and that the black flag would be raised above the palace in Kingham and the White House.⁴⁵

In another video distributed by the organization, Abu Khaled appeared among a group of militants in Nineveh Province in Iraq.⁴⁶



Australian Abu Khaled threatening the leaders of Western countries

- The Sariyyat al-Malhama jihadist media institution published an official announcement regarding its merger with the jihadist media institution of the IS, Al-Battar.⁴⁷



The logo of Sariyyat al-Malhama; a clip from the video

The Islamic State - Baghdad

- During the second half of October 2014, the Islamic State in Baghdad published the following:

⁴⁵<https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb;>

<https://ia801509.us.archive.org/1/items/MessageOfTheMujahid4/mm4.mp4>

⁴⁶<https://archive.org/details/omseyyaa>

⁴⁷<https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic); <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yCUkPlrm2A&feature=youtu.be>

- A claim of responsibility for three car bomb explosions in Al-Dawlai in northwest Baghdad. After the first blast, the second blast took place as patrol forces arrived and the third blast occurred as rescue forces arrived to evacuate the wounded. According to the statement, the attack – which was directed against Iraqi army forces and the armed Shi’ite militias of Ali al-Sistani – killed and injured dozens of people.⁴⁸
- The last will and testament of a suicide terrorist known as Abu Walid al-Iraqi. Among other things, al-Iraqi called on Muslims who had avoided jihad until now, to join the battle. He also encouraged the fighters and called on them not to fear Western attacks since only Allah decrees the day of a man’s death. According to the captions that accompanied the video, al-Iraqi detonated a car bomb that was laden with 600 kilograms of explosive material in the Shuala District in northern Baghdad on October 11. The attack was directed against Iraqi army forces, and over 100 people were killed and injured as a result of the attack. The video ended with the display of several stills that were taken at the scene of the attack.⁴⁹



The last will and testament of Abu Walid al-Iraqi

- The filmed last will and testament of a militant named Abu Aisha al-Husayni al-Qurayshi, who carried out a suicide attack using a car bomb in the Kazimiyah neighbourhood of Baghdad. According to the video, Ahmad al-Khaffaji, a commander in the Badr Corps Shi’ite militia – which previously came out against the IS in the media - was killed in the

⁴⁸ <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁴⁹ <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

attack.⁵⁰ According to news sources, at least 21 people were killed and over 50 others were injured in the attack.⁵¹

The Islamic State - Nineveh Province

- During the second half of October 2014, the media branch of the Islamic State in Nineveh Province published the following:
 - A statement regarding an attack that its members carried out in the province against Yazidis. According to the statement, IS fighters attacked a stronghold of the Yazidi militias northeast of the city of Mosul using rockets and mortar bombs. Dozens of militia fighters were killed and injured in the attack.⁵²
 - A claim of responsibility for an operation against Yezidi strongholds and those of the Kurdish Peshmerga forces, northeast of Mosul. According to the announcement, the attack was carried out under artillery and mortar bomb cover, and including an exchange of fire that ended with the IS taking control of several sites, including Qadisiyya and Yarmuk. The announcement noted that IS fighters plundered a large amount of weapons and ammunition, destroyed a polytheistic site and began to approach the next city, the Mosul Dam.⁵³
 - A video documenting the conversion of dozens of Yazidis to Islam.⁵⁴



From left to right: Yazidis at a conversion to Islam ceremony; the video banner

⁵⁰<https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb>(Arabic);

<https://archive.org/details/0002Wasiyah2AbuAichaAlHusayniAlQurashiMedQ>

⁵¹ <http://www.france24.com/en/20141014-iraqi-mp-among-dead-baghdad-car-bomb-attack> (English).

⁵² <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁵³ <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁵⁴ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

- A video documenting an evening for IS fighters on the banks of the Tigris River on the first day of the new Muslim year, 1436. The video showed the fighters holding a joint prayer in public, making threats against the West and its allies, having a meal and singing Islamic songs.⁵⁵
- An announcement by the Health Bureau of the IS in Nineveh Province regarding the cost of medications in the capital of the province, Mosul, which recently increased. The announcement detailed a method to limit the profits earned by drug merchants and pharmacies in order to make it easier for sick people who need medications for chronic illnesses.⁵⁶

The Islamic State – Al-Farat Province

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Al-Farat Province published a collection of photos documenting the restoration and construction of infrastructure in the province, such as the construction of passageways in and out of the province, the paving of roads, the connection of houses to electricity, and more.⁵⁷



From left to right: “Part of the utilities plan”; “Part of the electrical rehabilitation program”

The Islamic State – Saladin Province

- During the second half of October 2014, the Islamic State in Saladin Province published the following:

⁵⁵ <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁵⁶ <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁵⁷ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

- A claim of responsibility for a suicide attack using a truck that was laden with five tons of explosive material. The operation, which was carried out by a militant named Abu Abd al-Aziz al-Jazrawi and directed against a gathering of Iraqi army forces in Al-Dayum, west of Tikrit, killed and injured dozens of people and led to the destruction of several military vehicles.⁵⁸
- A video titled, “A Message from Brother Abu Bakr al-Muhajir to the Crusader Alliance Following the Downing of Two Planes in the City of Baiji in the Northern Part of Saladin Province”. In the video, al-Muhajir, an IS fighter, addressed the coalition forces in English and emphasized that the war that they sanctified against the IS was doomed to fail. Later in the video, there were short interviews with residents of the province who expressed support for the organization and disagreed with the attacks by coalition forces.⁵⁹



The video banner

- A collection of photos documenting life under the rule of the Islamic Caliphate in Al-Dalo'iyya (a city located approximately 80 km. north of the capital of Baghdad).⁶⁰



A photo from the collection

⁵⁸ <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁵⁹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁶⁰ <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

The Islamic State – Fallujah Province

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Fallujah Province published a video regarding the activities carried out by members of the Al-Hisba Bureau, an Islamic organization that operated during the Middle Ages whose job it was to monitor measurements and weights as well as public order and morality. In an interview conducted with a member of Al-Nisba, he listed the main tasks of the bureau today: the destruction of polytheistic sites, the safeguarding of Muslim honor, the prevention of harassment against women, the monitoring of weights, the regulation of movement and market stalls, and reminders for Friday prayers. The video included interviews with local residents who praised the activities of Al-Hisba.⁶¹



Members of Al-Hisba monitoring weights in the market

The Islamic State – Kirkuk Province

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Kirkuk Province published a collection of photos documenting infrastructure and maintenance work in Kirkuk Province, such as street cleaning, laying irrigation pipes, cultivating agriculture, and more.⁶²

Al-Sham [The Levant]

A new front opened in the Syrian arena with the arrival of Al-Nusra Front forces in Idlib Province in northwest Syria, an area that had been under the control of the Syrian army last year. According to Al-Nusra Front declarations, the organization managed to block supply routes to the city,

⁶¹ <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁶² <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

commandeer two tanks and capture approximately 12 soldiers.⁶³ In Idlib Province there was also an exchange of gunfire between the Al-Nusra Front and the Syria Revolutionaries Front and the Hazzm Movement, factions that are considered to be more moderate in the framework of the Syrian uprising.⁶⁴

Changes could also be seen in southern Syria concerning the balance of power and local trends. In Dar'a Province, the Free Syrian Army managed to take control of five important sites⁶⁵ while in Al-Suwayda Province fighters declared their refusal to enlist in the regular Syrian army.⁶⁶

Meanwhile, bombing by the regime continued throughout Syria: in Idlib,⁶⁷ Aleppo⁶⁸ and Jobar District in Damascus.⁶⁹ According to sources, some of the attacks were carried out using explosive barrels while the attack in Damascus was carried out with chlorine gas.⁷⁰ The situation of Syrian refugees also continued to be difficult: the food aid for refugees in Jordan was reduced (which led

⁶³ <http://www.skynewsarabia.com/web/article/698069/%D8%B3%D9%88%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D9%85%D8%B9%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%83-%D8%B9%D9%86%D9%8A%D9%81%D8%A9-%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%AE%D9%84-%D9%85%D8%AF%D9%8A%D9%86%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%95%D8%AF%D9%84%D8%A8>

⁶⁴ <http://www.alwatanvoice.com/arabic/news/2014/10/29/610913.html> (Arabic).

⁶⁵ <http://www.onlinenews.cc/arabic/2014/91523.html> (Arabic).

⁶⁶ <http://www.all4syria.info/Archive/173434>

⁶⁷ <http://www.radiosawa.com/content/syrian-airforce-attack-civilians/260617.html>

⁶⁸ <http://www.shahidn.com/arab/%D8%A7%D8%AE%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D8%B3%D9%88%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D9%82%D8%B5%D9%81-%D8%A8%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%84-%D9%85%D8%AA%D9%81%D8%AC%D8%B1%D8%A9-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D9%85%D8%AF%D9%8A%D9%86> (Arabic).

⁶⁹ <http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/arab-and-world/syria/2014/10/31/%D8%B3%D9%88%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D8%AA%D8%AC%D8%AF%D8%AF-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%82%D8%B5%D9%81-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B5%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%AE%D9%8A-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%AD%D9%8A-%D8%AC%D9%88%D8%A8%D8%B1-%D8%A8%D8%AF%D9%85%D8%B4%D9%82>

⁷⁰ <http://www.alaan.tv/news/world-news/117114/assad-forces-targeting-jobar-with-chlorine-gas-caused-10-injuries>

many of them to return to Syria)⁷¹ and Lebanon declared that it would not be able to accept more refugees from Syria into its country.⁷²

Syria

The Al-Nusra Front in Syria

- During the second half of October 2014, the jihadist media institution of the Al-Nusra Front in Syria, Al-Manarah al-Bayda, published the following:
 - A statement regarding the IS and the West's war against the organization. According to the statement, every operation identified with Islam and jihad has become identified with the Islamic State. Since the Crusader alliance began its war focused against the IS, every Muslim who fights for the sake of his weakened Sunni brothers is considered one who "follows the path of the Islamic State" and is attacked. The Al-Nusra Front clarified that it renounces the IS and the many crimes that it commits against Muslims, but it emphasized that it will continue to fight for the sake of Islam and the Sunnis even if it is liable to be incorrectly interpreted as following in the steps of the Islamic State.⁷³
 - A statement warning the Lebanese army against continuing to harm Sunnis in the city of Tripoli. The Al-Nusra Front demanded that the Lebanese army lift its blockade from the city and solve the disputes by peaceful means; otherwise, it will execute all of the Lebanese soldiers being held captive by the organization as they will pay the price for the war being waged against the Sunnis by the Lebanese army, Hezbollah and Iran. The Al-Nusra Front set an ultimatum and announced that the first execution would take

⁷¹ <http://24.ae/article/112873/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B1%D8%AF%D9%86-%D8%AA%D9%82%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%B5-%D9%82%D8%B3%D8%A7%D8%A6%D9%85-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%BA%D8%B0%D8%A7%D8%A1-%D9%8A%D8%AF%D9%81%D8%B9-3-%D8%A2%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%81-%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AC%D8%A6-%D9%84%D9%84%D8%B9%D9%88%D8%AF%D8%A9-%D8%A5%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%B3%D9%88%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A7.aspx>

⁷² <http://www.dw.de/%D9%84%D8%A8%D9%86%D8%A7%D9%86-%D9%8A%D8%BA%D9%84%D9%82-%D8%AD%D8%AF%D9%88%D8%AF%D9%87-%D8%B1%D8%B3%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D8%A3%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%85-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AC%D8%A6%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%88%D8%B1%D9%8A%D9%8A%D9%86/a-18006276>

⁷³ <http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

place on October 26, 2014 at 10:00am.⁷⁴

The Al-Nusra Front then announced that, per the request of the mujahideen in Lebanon, it was decided to postpone the execution to 14:00. The execution would be cancelled if the Lebanese militias meet the Al-Nusra Front's demands. It was emphasized that Sunni blood is not cheap and that Hezbollah was the one to worsen the situation in Lebanon.⁷⁵

The Al-Nusra Front later announced that the Lebanese army had submitted to its demands. Following indirect talks between the Al-Nusra Front and Lebanese government officials using mediators from Lebanon and Qatar, an agreement was reached whereby the execution was cancelled in exchange for restoring quiet in Tripoli. In addition, it was decided to renew negotiations for the release of prisoners held by the Al-Nusra Front in exchange for the release of prisoners from the Lebanese Rumiya Prison.⁷⁶

- A video titled, "Breaking the Siege", which documented an operation to free 500 mujahideen who were under siege in the town of Al-Malihah, near Damascus.⁷⁷ The video showed:
 - Part of a gunfire exchange between Asadullah Brigade, which belongs to the Al-Nusra Front, and Syrian regime forces.
 - Aerial images of Al-Malihah taken by skimmers with a camera.
 - A fighter known as Abu Alaa al-Tunisi who led a booby-trapped car to an area with regime forces, detonated it and returned to Al-Nusra Front forces. Al-Tunisi was later sent again in an explosives-laden vehicle, this time in order to carry out a suicide attack. The end of the video showed al-Tunisi's last will and testament, which was dedicated to his wife and daughter.
 - Some stages of the operation were carried out with cooperation between the Al-Nusra Front and Jaysh al-Islam, Faylaq al-Rahman and Ahrar al-Sham.

⁷⁴ <http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁷⁵ <http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁷⁶ <http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁷⁷ <https://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).



The Al-Nusra Front removes the siege from 500 fighters in Al-Malihah

- The Al-Nusra Front in Idlib Province published a statement in which it came out against Jamal Maarouf, leader of the Syria Revolutionaries Front. The announcement accused the factions operating under Maarouf of collaborating with the West against the residents of Syria and emphasized that the Al-Nusra Front’s opposition to Maarouf does not mean that it supports the Islamic State. The end of the statement included a promise that the Al-Nusra Front will continue to act for the sake of Muslims in Syria and against corruption in the country.⁷⁸
- A jihad activist on social networks reported the creation of an official Twitter account for the Sayf al-Shishani Brigade, a Chechen group involved with the Al-Nusra Front, at https://twitter.com/usudu_sham.⁷⁹

The Islamic State - Deir Ezzor Province

- During the second half of October 2014, the media wing of the Islamic State in Deir Ezzor Province published the following:
 - A video titled, “Meetings Regarding the Global Alliance against the Islamic State – Part 2”. The video included two speeches by members of the IS who condemned the coalition attacks against the organization. According to them, the Muslim Nation must oppose the Crusader plot against Islam and sanctify war against the infidel forces participating in the war.⁸⁰

⁷⁸ <http://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁷⁹ <https://twitter.com/CaucasusAffairs/status/526798914234880000>

⁸⁰ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

- A video that told the story of a martyr named Abu Khatab al-Suwayda who joined the IS.⁸¹



The video banner

The Islamic State – Al-Khayr Province

- During the second half of October 2014, the media wing of the Islamic State in Al-Khayr Province published the following:
 - A video documenting a suicide attack carried out by one of its members named Abu Muib al-Maghribi against Syrian security forces.⁸²
 - A collection of photos documenting its fighters' military activities in the province.⁸³



A photo of IS fighters in Al-Khayr Province

⁸¹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁸² <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁸³ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

The Islamic State – Aleppo Province

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Aleppo Province published a video documenting a shari'a course for teachers in the city of Manbaj. The video included interviews with teachers regarding the importance of the course.⁸⁴
- Two prominent visitors to the Al-Minbar Al-Alami Al-Jihadi Web forum published a video showing the first MiG plane belonging to the IS. The video showed the plane flying and landing in the Al-Jarah Airport in Aleppo, Syria.⁸⁵
- The Islamic News Agency – Haqq, which publishes news regarding global jihad activities, published a video documenting a woman being led to a field court in Syria where judgement was rendered by members of the IS who sentenced her to death by stoning for committing adultery. Her father carried out the sentence by stoning her after he refused to accept her apology for her actions.⁸⁶

Lebanon

The Al-Nusra Front in Lebanon

- Sheikh al-Asir, a Salafist sheikh and prominent leader in Lebanon called on Sunnis in Lebanon to take a stand to face the threat to the Sunni presence in Lebanon. Among other things al-Asir encouraged Sunnis not to fear and even called specifically on Lebanese soldiers to help from within the ranks and bases of the military, which he referred to as a tool of Hezbollah.⁸⁷

The Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip

Tensions in the Sinai Peninsula recently worsened, and clashes between security forces and Salafist-jihadists increased. The violence taking place in the peninsula led the Egyptian army to make an aggressive and unprecedented response in order to restore the peace.

On October 17, 2014 two Egyptian police officers were killed and another officer was injured

⁸⁴ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁸⁵ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁸⁶ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁸⁷ <http://islammemo.cc/akhbar/arab/2014/10/25/213672.html>;
https://twitter.com/ahmad_alaseer/status/525986909151977473

as a result of RPG rocket fire in the city of Al-Arish in the northern Sinai Peninsula. The officers were on patrol when the rocket hit their vehicle. No organization claimed responsibility for the attack.⁸⁸ On October 25, 2014 one of the largest terrorist attacks to have taken place recently in Egypt occurred in Sinai: at least 25 people were killed in a car bomb explosion at a military checkpoint in Al-Arish. The targets of the attack were two armored fighting vehicles that had stopped next to the base. There were conflicting reports regarding the manner in which the attack was carried out and it was unclear if a car bomb was used or if rockets were launched.⁸⁹

As previously stated, the increased level of violence led the Egyptian army to evacuate and destroy approximately 880 houses near the eastern border with the Sinai Peninsula. The army acted imperiously in order to prevent the passage of people, goods and weapons between jihadist organizations in Sinai and organizations in Gaza.⁹⁰ The army's efforts also bore fruit: on October 27, 2014, 15 Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis (a prominent jihadist organization in Sinai) militants were killed in a series of aerial strikes by the Egyptian army south of Rafah.⁹¹

The Maghreb [North Africa]

Clashes continued in Libya between the Fajr Libya ("Libya Dawn") Islamic militia and regular army forces, which claimed to have arrested dozens of militia fighters⁹² and fended off the militia's presence from the town of Warshefana, south of the capital of Tripoli.⁹³ On the other side, Fajr Libya managed to seize control over the city of Kikla in the Nafusa Mountains.⁹⁴ Also in eastern Libya, the official army carried out attacks against Islamist organizations, including the Shura Revolutionary

⁸⁸ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/16/us-egypt-sinai-blast-idUSKCN0I52Y420141016> (English).

⁸⁹ <http://in.reuters.com/article/2014/10/24/egypt-sinai-idINKCN0ID1QZ20141024> (English).

⁹⁰ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/29/us-egypt-sinai-buffer-idUSKBN0II1Q320141029> (English).

⁹¹ <http://www.tnegypt.com/security-kills-15-ansar-beit-al-maqdis-militants-sinai/> (English).

⁹² <http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/north-africa/libya/2014/10/19/%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B5%D9%88%D8%B1-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D9%8A%D8%B4-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A-%D9%8A%D8%A3%D8%B3%D8%B1-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B4%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D9%85%D9%86-%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%B4%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D9%81%D8%AC%D8%B1-%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A7-.html>

⁹³ <http://24.ae/article/111486/%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D9%8A%D8%B4-%D9%8A%D9%8F%D8%AC%D9%84%D9%8A-%D9%81%D8%AC%D8%B1-%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D8%B9%D9%86-%D9%88%D8%B1%D8%B4%D9%81%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A9.aspx>

⁹⁴ <http://www.alaraby.co.uk/politics/60e96d18-4e8a-4734-8eb1-7c892df44282>

*Council and the Raf Allah al-Sahati Brigade.*⁹⁵

In light of the chaos in Libya, countries of the Maghreb took various steps to monitor, prevent and thwart terrorist activities:

*Tunisia declared the start of a series of trials for hundreds of terrorism suspects, including activists who took part in the fighting in Syria and then returned to their homeland.*⁹⁶ *The opening of the trials comes on the heels of the victory of the Nidas Tounes party in the elections that were held at the end of the month, a victory that guarantees that the fight against the extremist Islamist elements in the country would continue.*⁹⁷

*A new strategy in the fight against terrorism was revealed in Morocco. The new plan would create a common interface composed of the army, the Gendarmerie and the police, and cover sensitive areas in Morocco with special emphasis on the country's air space.*⁹⁸ *Meanwhile, Morocco carried out arrests of activists who expressed support for the IS.*⁹⁹

*In Algeria, the head of the People's National Assembly, Mohamed al-Arabi Ould Khalifa, announced Algeria's efforts to dry up sources of terrorism funding by, among other things, making ransom payment outside of the law and combating drug trafficking.*¹⁰⁰ *In addition, a conference was held in the capital of Algiers regarding terrorism victims and ways in which to assist them.*¹⁰¹

Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb

- The Al-Andalus jihadist media institution, the official voice of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), published an audio clip titled, "Brothers in Faith...Law and Reality" by Asim Abu Hayyan, a kadi (religious court judge) in the organization. Most of the clip included praise for the strong stance of the mujahideen in the face of challenges and enemies of Islam.¹⁰²

Algeria

⁹⁵ http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/10/23/feature-01 (English).

⁹⁶ http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/10/17/feature-02 (English).

⁹⁷ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-29828706> (English).

⁹⁸ http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/10/29/feature-03 (English).

⁹⁹ http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/10/17/feature-01 (English).

¹⁰⁰ <http://www.radioalgerie.dz/news/ar/article/20141023/17551.html> (Arabic).

¹⁰¹ <http://www.radioalgerie.dz/news/ar/article/20141027/17895.html> (Arabic).

¹⁰² <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

- Jund al-Khilafa published a video with a message for the President of France, François Hollande. The video first broadcast a statement by Abu Muhammad al-Adnani, spokesman for the IS, regarding the obligation of those who support and swear allegiance to the organization to help it combat the countries taking part in the war against the IS by attacking and killing “American, Canadian, Australian or European infidels, especially the French”. Later in the video, Jund al-Khilafa activists noted that they had answered al-Adnani’s call and were ready to follow the orders of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. According to them, they had managed to kidnap a French civilian named Hervé Gourdel, a tour guide, and that if the French government did not stop its attacks against the IS, Gourdel would be executed within 24 hours of the video’s publication. Afterwards, the captive appealed to the President of France to meet the demands of the organization so that he could be set free.¹⁰³



The video banner

Libya

- The Al-Raya jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with Ansar al-Sharia, published a message addressed to “the tyrant’s soldiers”, in which the organization accused Libyan soldiers of preventing the implementation of shari’a and of fighting against the mujahideen.¹⁰⁴ In addition, the organization published a song encouraging jihad against Al-Saiqa (Libyan Special Forces) and including threats against General Khalifa Haftar.¹⁰⁵

¹⁰³ <https://twitter.com/fisal1fjfi/status/525495632480317440>

¹⁰⁴ https://twitter.com/sal_alq/status/527161391783112704

¹⁰⁵ <https://twitter.com/ismh69/status/525077772658819073>; <http://www.gulfup.com/?2IKyRs>

- The recruitment office of the IS in Al-Baraka Province called on Muslims who had difficulty moving to arenas of jihad in Syria and Iraq to go to the arena of jihad in Libya via social networks. In response, several jihadists in Al-Baraka Province emphasized that their loyalty was to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of the IS.¹⁰⁶



From left to right: “Islamic Police” cars patrolling the streets of Darna; the Office of the Islamic Court in Al-Baraka Province

- A Libyan jihad activist posted a statement on social networks that was distributed by the Islamic State’s modesty patrols to stores selling women’s clothing in the city of Derna in Al-Baraka Province. In the statement, the modesty patrols advised against shameful clothing that could arouse the evil inclination.¹⁰⁷

¹⁰⁶ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic); #دعوة للهجرة الى أرض الخلافة بليبيا

¹⁰⁷ https://twitter.com/um_isaf/status/527113395016065024/photo/1



The statement posted to social networks

Tunisia

- The Uqba ibn Nafi' Battalion published a threat to avenge the death of six of its fighters who were killed during an exchange of fire with Tunisian security forces in Wadi al-Layl. The group – which recently swore allegiance to the Islamic State – published a video in which it called for the killing of several senior Tunisian government officials, including the Prime Minister, Mehdi Jomaa.¹⁰⁸

Egypt

- During the second half of October 2014, the Ajnad Misr jihadist organization published the following:
 - A claim of responsibility (announcement no. 11) for an attack that took place at Cairo University. The announcement stated that fighters from the organization managed to carry out another attack in a location where a previous had claimed the life of a senior commander in the Egyptian army despite the many precautions taken by the security

¹⁰⁸ <http://www.arakmia.com/%D8%AA%D9%88%D9%86%D8%B3-%D9%83%D8%AA%D9%8A%D8%A8%D8%A9-%D8%B9%D9%82%D8%A8%D8%A9-%D8%A5%D8%A8%D9%86-%D9%86%D8%A7%D9%81%D8%B9-%D8%AA%D8%AF%D8%B9%D9%88-%D8%A5%D9%84%D9%89-%D9%82%D8%AA%D9%84-%D8%A7%D9%84/171746>

forces. It also stated that, recently, the organization rarely carried out activities at the university but despite this security forces are harassing students, arresting them and killing them; in light of this, the organization renewed its activities with a large terrorist attack against security forces at Cairo University.¹⁰⁹

- An announcement (no. 12) regarding the establishment of a media wing to work on behalf of the organization, called Al-Kinana. According to the organization, the decision to establish the above-mentioned media wing was made in order to: deal with the false propaganda campaign being waged by the enemy and the need to publish the truth about what is happening in the area, increase Muslims' awareness of the reality and the threat posed to them by the Egyptian regime, clarify the correct faith and promote the idea of jihad against the enemies of Islam. The end of the announcement included the addresses of the new media wing's Twitter, Facebook and YouTube accounts as well as its blog.¹¹⁰

On October 27, 2014 the Al-Kinana media institution published its first statement regarding the start of its activities. The statement explained that the importance of jihad is not limited to the battle arena but also extends to the publicity arena, and listed the factors that inspired its establishment, which were mentioned above.¹¹¹



The logo of the Al-Kinana media institution

¹⁰⁹ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

¹¹⁰ <https://fidaa1.net/vb> (Arabic).

¹¹¹ <https://twitter.com/kananaproductio/status/526719907657166848/photo/1>

Nigeria

During the second half of October 2014 the Nigerian army announced a ceasefire with Boko Haram, in the framework of which the organization was supposed to release 219 girls who were kidnapped in April 2014. However, the agreement proved to be very fragile in light of the kidnapping of young girls in Admawa State the day after the ceasefire was announced; an additional 30 young men and women were kidnapped at the end of October in villages 40 km. away from Borno State.¹¹² According to a report published by Human Rights Watch at the end of October 2014, the women and girls kidnapped by Boko Haram gunmen in Nigeria were forced to join the fighting, forced to lure men into a trap, and forced to marry their captors.¹¹³

At the same time as the ceasefire collapse, heavy fighting broke out between Boko Haram fighters and the Cameroon army. According to the latter, the army had managed to kill 107 Boko Haram fighters in the north of the country.¹¹⁴

Somalia

The Somali arena continued to remain quiet without significant activity by jihadist organizations. Since the killing of the leader of Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen, Godane, the organization's power seems to be on the decline.

On October 20, 2014 Kenyan and Somali soldiers killed five members of Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen. The killings took place on the Ethiopia-Kenya border after the soldiers found approximately 100 grams of explosive material and six explosive belts in the militants' cars.¹¹⁵

Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen

- During the second half of October 2014, the Al-Kataib jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen, published the following:
 - A video whose title was drawn from the Quran, "They are the Enemies So Beware of Them" in Arabic and English. The video documented the assassination of a Somali

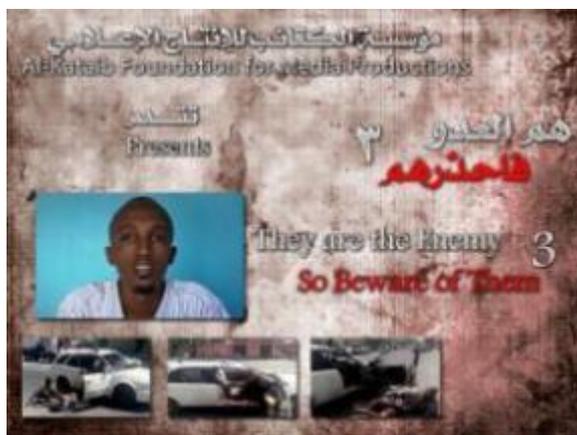
¹¹² <http://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-4584870,00.html> (Hebrew).

¹¹³ <http://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-4585019,00.html> (Hebrew).

¹¹⁴ <http://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/africa/.premium-1.2461574> (Hebrew).

¹¹⁵ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/20/us-kenya-security-idUSKCN0I927920141020> (English).

collaborator named Muhammad Jili who worked for the American CIA and the French DGSE and provided them with intelligence information that helped them to kill two members of the organization.¹¹⁶



The video banner

- A propaganda video titled, “Save the Muslims of [the Republic of] Central Africa”, which accused the government of persecuting Muslims in the country. The video also described a terrorist attack that was carried out by members of Al-Shabab against an African forces post in the city of Janale in Lower Shabelle Province.¹¹⁷
- The Al-Shaada news agency, which operates on behalf of Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen, reported that the organization’s Islamic Court in Lower Shabelle Province had executed an 18-year-old married man, by stoning according to the laws of shari’a, for raping a 28-year-old woman.¹¹⁸

Iran

- The Al-Adl Army, a Salafist-jihadist organization in Balochistan, published a video documenting a terrorist attack that its members carried out at an Iranian army base on October 8, 2014 in the

¹¹⁶

<https://shamikh1.info/vb>

(Arabic);

https://twitter.com/J_Eielamiya/status/524311466829025283/photo/1

¹¹⁷ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic); https://twitter.com/J_Eielamiya/status/525660201018728448

¹¹⁸ https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1542278659337063&id=1491251524439777

city of Sarawan. Members of the organization attacked the base with heavy weapons and managed to kill and injure several Iranian soldiers.¹¹⁹

The West

- Sheikh Anjem Choudary, a radical Islamic preacher in England, continued to publish controversial correspondence on his Twitter account. During the second half of October 2014, Choudary posted several tweets (see examples below), including a criticism of the attack by coalition forces against the Islamic State, the need to impose shari'a, the prominence of Islam over other religions, hope that shari'a will take control over Western countries, and more.¹²⁰



Two of Choudary's tweets

Miscellaneous

- The Salafi-jihadist Web portal, Minbar al-Tawhid wal-Jihad, which serves as a channel to issue fatwas for jihadists, blessed the addition of a new adjudicator named Abu 'Abdallah 'Imad bin Abdallah al-Tunisi to the portal's Shari'a Council. The portal itself was established by Sheikh Muhammad al-Maqdidi – a senior member of the Salafi-jihadist movement in Jordan – and serves as a collection of fatwas, mainly for jihad activists and supporters.¹²¹

¹¹⁹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

¹²⁰ <https://twitter.com/anjemchoudary>

¹²¹ <https://fidaa1.net/vb> (Arabic).

- A new Web site was established that serves as an archive for IS publications. The site includes all of the publications – all types, from all provinces and from all media institutions belonging to the Islamic State.¹²²

The web site address: <http://dawla-is.appspot.com/> , <http://dwl-is.appspot.com/>

¹²² <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

ABOUT THE ICT

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