

Global Jihad: Summary of Information from Arabic Media Sources

The First Half of November 2010

This report summarizes the most prominent articles on the subject of global Jihad published in the media in the Arabic language in the first half of November 2010.

Following are the main issues raised in this report:

- A wave of terrorism in Iraq against Christians and Shiites results in the death of over 100 people.
- A new tape from Anwar Al-Awlaki in which he calls for the Americans to be fought, and says that this does not require a religious permit.
- The "Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen" organization threatens to attack targets in Uganda and Burundi.
- Saif Al-Adel, who was recently released from house arrest in Iran, was appointed to lead Al-Qaeda's international terrorist attacks.
- Five terrorists suspected of attempting to assassinate an Islamic leader who is considered to be moderate, were arrested in France.

Afghanistan – Pakistan and the Asian expanse:The Al-Qaeda leadership*A possibility that Saif Al-Adel was appointed Al-Qaeda's new Head of Operations*

- On November 11th, the "Al-Quds Al-Arabi" Arabic newspaper quoted the report in the "The Daily Telegraph" that Al-Qaeda's leader, Osama bin Laden, appointed Saif Al-Adel to be in charge of Al-Qaeda's international terrorist attacks. It is believed that he is behind the high state of alert in several western countries, as well as the airline cargo bomb plot. Furthermore, American and Pakistani Security personnel claim that Al-Adel was behind similar terrorist attacks as part of a war of attrition on the western public opinion to convince the public that the "war on terrorism" cannot be won. These senior members believe that this war will pave the way for Al-Qaeda to take over Yemen and Somalia, and to attain governance in these countries. It was further stated that Al-Qaeda's current strategy is to carry out terrorist attacks in an ongoing manner, however small these attacks may be, and thus effectively harm western interests more so than by way of a few large terrorist attacks.

The "Al-Quds Al-Arabi" newspaper continued to quote the "Daily Telegraph", reporting that Al-Adel wrote a manual for Al-Qaeda in 2005 dealing with the topic of the management of terrorist attacks, in which he said that the Islamic movement has failed in its objectives because its terrorist attacks were only carried out sporadically. He asked the Islamic movement to focus on the main objective, which is the founding of an Islamic state. The new strategy is a victory for Al-Adel's camp which opposed large showcase attacks such as the September 11 attacks, for fear of retaliation that may affect the Islamic movement.

In recent years Al-Adel was living with his family whilst detained in Iran. As reported in previous periodical reports, he was released in April this year together with Bin Laden's son and Sulaiman Abu Ghaith. Saif Al-Adel is also known as Muhammad Al-Makawi and Ibrahim Al-Madani. He was born in Egypt and served in the Egyptian Special Forces, but was arrested in 1987 together with other Jihad supporters, and was accused of an attempted attack on the Egyptian Parliament. There are also testimonies that he acted as an instructor at an Al-Qaeda base in Afghanistan and that he has participated in several attacks.¹

- On November 6th, the "Al-Hayat" newspaper published an article by the Egyptian journalist, Muhammad Faiz Farhat, on the language used by Al-Qaeda, which he claims has downgraded and lost its passion and consistency. Farhat points to the fact that Al-Qaeda has declared a Jihad war on what it has called "the primary enemy", meaning the Jews and the Crusaders. Farhat says that the Palestinian issue was the main arena in which the term "Jihad" was used, whereas despite the importance of the national liberation in south-east Asia, Eastern Europe or the Caucasus none of these issues hold as much importance as the Palestinian issue for the Arab and Islamic world.

However, in actuality, Al-Qaeda's main efforts are not focused on the "external enemy", that is – the West, which according to Al-Qaeda constitutes its main target. This is because other than in Afghanistan and Iraq, there is no clear American and Western "enemy" presence in south-east Asia, Yemen and Somalia. Therefore Al-Qaeda's activity is an example of the change the organization underwent from carrying out Jihad against the "external enemy" to carrying out Jihad against the "internal enemy", that is – Muslim

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<http://www.alquds.co.uk/index.asp?fname=today%5C11qpt92.5.htm&arc=data%5C2010%5C11%5C11-11%5C11qpt92.5.htm>

governments that have deviated from the true path. Although Al-Qaeda occasionally carries out terrorist attacks against western targets, its main battle is directed towards Muslim societies, the political regimes and national countries. This is what Farhat calls the "internal enemy".

Another point raised by him is the one of the decentralization of the Al-Qaeda dialogue. According to him, Al-Qaeda has many issues on its agenda, so that it can exploit the maximum number of issues pertaining to as many societies around the Islamic world as possible, as this will obtain the widest possible base of support. But this decentralization creates an element of confusion about the organization's priorities. Thus, the ruling elites in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Egypt, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and even some opposition parties in these countries have been added to Al-Qaeda's list of enemies. An example of this is Muhammad Al-Baradei, whom Ayman Al-Zawahiri spoke out against on the ninth anniversary of the September 11th attacks.

A third point mentioned by Farhat is the use the organization has been making recently of scientific terminology. An example of this is Bin Laden's speech on the floods in Pakistan in which he spoke of "climate change", the "drought", "floods", "food security" and other "scientific" terms. Contrary to the organization's belief, this actually deepens the disconnection between the organization's dialogue and its existence as a global Jihad organization.

According to Farhat, the decline in Al-Qaeda's dialogue is an important cause of the drop in the attractiveness of Al-Qaeda's ideology, a process occurring simultaneously with the existence of other weakening factors, including: the elimination of the organization's leaders in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq,

Yemen, Somalia and south-east Asia; the phenomenon of members of Jihadi organizations retreating from their ideas and more.²

The writer, Muhammad Faiz Farhat, speaks of the obscurity, vagueness, lack of a guiding hand and a recent decline pertaining to Al-Qaeda's messages. Despite the fact that the data he presents in his article is true, it is important to note that there is a trend in the Arab press, and mainly in the press identified with Saudi Arabia, to emphasize the alleged difficult position in which Al-Qaeda finds itself, so as to de-legitimize the organization.

Pakistan

- The "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" newspaper reported on November 12th that 20 people were killed in Karachi in a suicide attack executed in a police building used as the headquarters of the Criminal Investigations Administration, which is located in an area which is under tight security supervision. At the start of the attack, the attackers fired at the policemen guarding the building, which was followed by a suicide bomber driving a truck rigged with explosives into the building's external wall. It was reported that the explosion caused a 12x4 meter crater in the ground and that parts of the adjacent buildings collapsed. The building which was attacked is several hundred meters away from important government building, including the residence of the Governor and Prime Minister of the Sindh Province, whose capital is Karachi.³
- The "Al-Jazeera" network reported on November 6th that over 70 people were killed in Pakistan in two different terrorist attacks. The first terrorist attack was carried out in the city of Akhurwal near Peshawar, when a suicide bomber infiltrated a mosque via the back door, detonating his explosives belt amongst

² <http://international.daralhayat.com/internationalarticle/199658>

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<http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11672&article=594913&feature=>

the worshippers during the Friday prayers on November 5th 2010. It was reported that amongst the casualties were 11 children. A tribal leader from the area said that they believe the Taliban carried out the attack. This is despite the fact that the Taliban-Pakistan spokesperson, Azzam Tariq, denied his organization's involvement in the attack and said that his men do not harm civilians. He accused the American security-provision Blackwater company (known today as Xe), of executing the attack. Several hours later at least four grenades were thrown at a mosque in the village of Sulemankhel, which is located about 15 kilometers from Akhurwal and about 7 kilometers from Peshawar. This attack caused the deaths of at least four people.⁴

India

- The "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" newspaper reported on November 9th that recently more and more leaders from the Lashkar-e-Taiba organization have been joining Al-Qaeda, and that the organization is slowly moving away from being under the control of the Pakistani Intelligence forces. This has been after the organization became more decentralized and adopted Al-Qaeda's global ideas. Security commentators said that Pakistan could have relied on the Lashkar-e-Taiba organization as the latter used to refrain from carrying out terrorist attacks within Pakistan, and focused on India and Kashmir. "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" quotes Steven Tankel author of a book on the organization, who said: "There was tension inside the Lashkar-e-Taiba organization for some time, between those who focused on executing terrorist attacks in India and those with an international orientation".⁵

⁴ <http://www.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/5F5699A1-3AF0-42AB-AA6A-1DD35F815A68.htm>

⁵ <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11669&article=594560&feature>

Iraq

A series of attacks against Christian targets

- There were 52 casualties in a terrorist attack at the "Our Lady of Salvation Church" in Baghdad. The casualties included civilian hostages and policemen. According to reports, members of the "Islamic State of Iraq" organization who were dressed in army uniforms broke into the church at noon on October 31st, killing the priest on the spot and taking the rest of the churchgoers (over 100 people) hostage. The kidnappers demanded the release of Al-Qaeda prisoners in Egypt and Iraq in return for the release of the hostages in the church. Five of the attackers and 52 people, including civilians and policemen, were killed in the exchange of fire with the security forces during an attempt to free the hostages. Eight of the attackers were arrested. The U.S. stated that their only participation was in the provision of advice and helping on the strategic and intelligence level, and that they did not take an active part in the attempted release. This contradicted eyewitness reports published by the "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" newspaper.⁶

The "Islamic State of Iraq" organization used the opportunity to threaten an attack on the Copts in Egypt if two female members of the Coptic community who were rumored to have converted to Islam and were then held captive by the Copts in Egypt, were not released.⁷

Two days later, after the deadline given by Al-Qaeda for the release of the female prisoners had expired, Al-Qaeda declared that all the Christians in Iraq have now become "legitimate targets for the organization".⁸ The Lebanese "Al-Shiraa" weekly publication claims that according to its reliable sources the

⁶ <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11662&article=593533>

⁷ <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11662&article=593534>

⁸ <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11664&article=593825>

Iranian Intelligence directed the attack at the church.⁹ It should be noted that none of the major Arab media outlets gave credence to this claim, so it is in some doubt.

- Eleven days after the multi-casualty attack at the "Our Lady of Salvation Church" in Baghdad, there was a series of terrorist attacks perpetrated against the Christian population of the city. The "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" newspaper reported that six people were killed and 33 were wounded in an attack in which consisted of the launching of mortar shells and the detonation of 10 explosives charges at the homes of Christians in Baghdad.¹⁰

These attacks follow claims made by Al-Qaeda that the Christian Church in Egypt has incarcerated Kamilia Shehata because she converted to Islam. Al-Qaeda is demanding her release as well as the release of the rest of the Muslim women held by the Coptic Church in Egypt.

A timed terrorist attack in Shiite neighborhoods in Baghdad

- Twenty attacks occurred simultaneously in Baghdad overnight between Tuesday and Wednesday (2-3 November 2010). Twelve of these involved car bombs and several using explosives charges placed near cafés and restaurants in various locations around the city which have a concentrated Shiite population. Sixty four people were killed and 360 were injured in the attacks.

The "Al-Hayat" newspaper reported that a high-level security source detailed the route of the terrorist attacks and the characteristics of their planning and execution, and deduces from this that the attacks were probably not carried out by Al-Qaeda, but by political groups. The simultaneous timing of all the

⁹ <http://alshiraa.com/details.php?id=6010>

¹⁰ <http://aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11671&article=594780&feature=>

explosions and the way the attacks were executed requires complex logistical, intelligence and technical organization, which are not characteristics of the organization; the charges were detonated remotely and suicide bombers were not used; the attackers exploited weaknesses that could only have been known to people of influence; the scope of the attacks required more than one explosives laboratory in more than one area, testifying to official political or government cover to secure these locations; the transfer of the explosive materials to the explosives laboratory would also have required official political cover to get through the checkpoints, if the cars were rigged elsewhere and distributed from that point to the targeted areas.

The source mentioned that Al-Qaeda uses car bombs driven by suicide bombers as this will cause the maximum number of casualties, while in the current series of terrorist attacks several charges were placed together and detonated from afar. This causes fewer casualties as the body of the car absorbs the detonation.¹¹ Despite this, "Al-Hayat" reported that the "Islamic State of Iraq" organization affiliated with Al-Qaeda, claimed responsibility for the series of attacks in a manifesto published on the "Hanein" website, saying that: "The Jihad fighters executed a new blessed operation [...] as revenge for the mothers of the believers and the Prophet's entourage, after the unclean "Rafida" (derogatory name for Shiites) continued with their corruption and began aspiring for the return of the Safavid Plan".¹²

It should be noted that in this statement Al-Qaeda raises theological disputes which are rooted in the origins of Islam, pertaining to the doubts about the loyalty of one of Muhammad's wives, Aisha. The statement also linked the current struggle against the Shiites in Iraq to a struggle that took place

¹¹ <http://ksa.daralhayat.com/ksaarticle/199099>

¹² <http://international.daralhayat.com/internationalarticle/199789>

hundreds of years ago in the time of the Safavid Dynasty which ruled Iran in the 16th and 17th centuries.

- The "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" newspaper reported that the phenomenon of armed robberies of jewelry stores is increasing in Iraq. The spokesperson of the Operations Headquarters in Baghdad stated that the robberies are used to finance networks such as Al-Qaeda.¹³

The Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf

The affair of the airline cargo bombs¹⁴

- New details continue to emerge about the affair of the inkjet cartridge bombs sent from Yemen. The package intercepted in Dubai was sent on a passenger airplane belonging to Qatar Airways and contained 300 grams of PETN explosives, while the package intercepted in Britain, after travelling via Germany, contained 400 grams of the same type of explosives. British Prime Minister David Cameron said that apparently the second charge was meant to blow up the aircraft.¹⁵ The names of the addresses on the packages sent by Al-Qaeda are names of great significance pertaining to Islam, taken from historical events which occurred hundreds of years ago. The names used by Al-Qaeda are "Diego Deza", one of the heads of the Spanish Inquisition who was known for his cruelty, and "Raynald Kerak" also known as "Raynald of Châtillon", a warlord who arrived in the Middle East in the Second Crusade,

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<http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11661&article=593393&feature>

¹⁴ On this matter, see also:

http://www.ict.org.il/Portals/0/Internet%20Monitoring%20Group/JWVG_Arab_Media_Sources_October_2010_2.pdf, pages 5-6.

¹⁵

<http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11662&article=593551&feature>

and killed many Muslims who made the Hajj pilgrimage, until he was killed by Salah Ad-Din.¹⁶

- The British security forces believe that the package intercepted in Britain was supposed to detonate on the plane whilst it flew over the east coast of America. The British security forces further stated that the person who provided the intelligence on the packages was Jabir Al-Fayfi, an Al-Qaeda operative who turned himself in.¹⁷ "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" also reported that from July this year, Saudi Arabia has given the United States and Europe three warnings concerning Al-Qaeda in Yemen and its plan to carry out a terrorist attack using one or two aircrafts. They also reported that during September several cargos containing household appliances, books and various other items were sent from Yemen, and that now the hypothesis that these were part of Al-Qaeda's preparation for the attack, is being examined.¹⁸
- The "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" newspaper reported that Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula declared on November 5th that it was responsible for the crash of a UPS aircraft in Dubai on September 3rd, and also claimed responsibility for the two explosives charges discovered in Britain and Dubai. However, the Dubai Chief of Police stated that he does not believe that Al-Qaeda was behind the discovered explosives or the UPS plane crash. He said that the crash was not caused by an explosion, and that if there had been a detonation of an explosives charge similar to the ones recently discovered, the plane would have been blown to pieces whilst still in the sky.¹⁹

¹⁶ <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11664&article=593833>

¹⁷ <http://aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11671&article=594787&feature>. See also:

http://www.ict.org.il/Portals/0/Internet%20Monitoring%20Group/JWVG_Arab_Media_Sources_October_2010_2.pdf, pages 5-6.

¹⁸ <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&article=594214&issueno=11667>

¹⁹ <http://aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11667&article=594213&feature>

Yemen

- The Yemen authorities continue their activity against Al-Qaeda. The "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" newspaper reported that at the end of October, 15 Al-Qaeda activists turned themselves in to the authorities, and about one week later another 14 activists surrendered to the authorities in Abyan. This occurred following an operation run by the authorities against Al-Qaeda operatives in Abyan and Shabwa.²⁰
- Senior Americans revealed on November 7th 2010 that for the first time in several years, the U.S. deployed Predator unmanned aircrafts in Yemen to monitor Al-Qaeda activists. Yemeni figures denied the reports and the head of the Media Department at the ruling General People's Congress in Yemen said that the publication may "deepen the problem, cause it to deteriorate, and reinforce the position of the terror entities, and as a result, create an atmosphere of sympathy towards these entities claiming that they are fighting Western occupation and intervention".²¹
- In an interview with Al-Jazeera on November 2nd, Said Al-Jamhi, an Al-Qaeda expert from Yemen, suggested that Al-Qaeda is trying to draw the United States into operations in Yemen, thus enabling it to recruit widespread support in the name of Islam.²²
- On November 6th, the "26th September" Yemeni newspaper reported that the criminal court in Sana'a issued a warrant for the forcible arrest of Anwar Al-Awlaki and his cousin, Uthman Al-Awlaki. The two were charged with calling for the assassination of foreigners and belonging to an armed organization for the purpose of attacking foreigners. This is based on the testimony of Hashim Muhammad Asim, who is charged with the murder of the French engineer

²⁰ <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&issueno=11662&article=593549>

²¹ <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=1&issueno=11668&article=594438>

²² <http://www.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/61273372-3709-49B1-89D8-401F6283F812.htm>

employed by the OMP company in Yemen on October 6th 2010. According to Asim's testimony, he and Al-Awlaki communicated via 30 emails and one phone call. He further testified that when he was greeted by the Frenchman on the morning of October 6th, he was reminded of Anwar Al-Awlaki's words and his calls for the murder of foreigners, especially Americans and Europeans. This "without noticing", Asim found himself releasing the automatic safety on his gun, loading it and shooting at the Frenchman whilst saying "Allah Akbar". It is reported that the security operation is still taking place in the Shabwa Province for the apprehension of the two.²³

A new tape by Anwar Al-Awlaki

- Anwar Al-Awlaki made a new tape in the first week of November 2010, calling "not to consult with anyone on the killing of Americans, as the war with the devil does not require a fatwa or a consultation. They [the Americans] are the devil's party and fighting them is an obligation". During the 23-minute tape, Al-Awlaki said that the Muslims and the Americans are opposites that shall never reconcile and the formula reached with the Americans is "Us or You". Al-Awlaki also called on all the Muslims serving in the United States' Army to follow the path of Nidal Hasan, the American military psychologist of Palestinian origin who killed 13 people at an army base in Texas. Al-Awlaki further called for Islamic rulers to be deposed because the Islamic commandment to obey the ruler does not apply to them as they do not defend Islam.²⁴

²³ http://www.26sep.net/news_details.php?lng=arabic&sid=68809

²⁴ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2010/11/101108_yemen_awlaki_video.shtml

Saudi Arabia

- The Al-Jazeera network's website reported on November 14th that Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula has denied that the organization is planning a terrorist attack against the Hajj pilgrims. In response to the statement made by the Saudi Minister of Interior on the possibility of such an Al-Qaeda attack, the organization declared in a statement that "the desperate attempts of the Saud family to eliminate the Mujahideen is causing them to make up lies against them, including the Saudi Minister of Interior's declaration of the possibility the Mujahideen will carry out a terrorist attack against the Hajj pilgrims, so as to distort their image in the eyes of our Muslim nation".²⁵

The Al-Sham region

Lebanon

- The "Assafir" Lebanese newspaper reported on November 13th that the military court convicted 54 people belonging to Al-Qaeda and the Fatah Al-Islam organization, chief amongst them, Sheikh Omar Bakri who headed the "Al-Muhajirun" Islamic organization. 17 of those convicted were sentenced by the court, in absentia, to a life imprisonment. Amongst the accused are at least 3 Saudis, a Syrian and 2 Palestinians.²⁶

The Maghreb

Algeria

- The "Al-Shuruk" Algerian newspaper reported that the Italian Ministry of Interior revealed on November 13th that it had deported two Algerian

²⁵ <http://www.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/DA2559F7-FDD4-4CB3-99A7-3706CE79C938.htm>

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<http://www.assafir.com/Article.aspx?EditionId=1697&ChannelId=39728&ArticleId=1473&Author>

explosives experts suspected of belonging to a terrorist cell in the Campania region of southern Italy. The Italian Ministry of Interior clarified that the two, deported to Algeria, are experts in the manufacturing of explosives using chemicals. The two were arrested in 2005, and in 2006 were sentenced to 6 years in prison, charged with having attempted to attack busy locations in Italy and outside it, sport centers and train stations.²⁷

- According to reports in the "Al-Shuruk" newspaper on November 12th, the Algerian Army killed 12 terror operatives belonging to the "Immigrant Brigade" of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, led by Mustafa Amduh (aka Abd Al-Samad), as well as destroying the Brigade's training centers and hiding places. All of this occurred only several days after a military operation in which another senior member was killed, and weapons, ammunition and seditious materials were captured. According to "Al-Shuruk" sources, following the military siege, the Immigrant Brigade has a new strategy of moving in small groups of no more than three people.²⁸

Mauritania

- The Al-Jazeera network's website reported that on November 15th, the Mauritanian President issued an amnesty to 134 detainees belonging to terrorist organizations, including the "Al-Jamaa Al-Salafiya Al-Jihadiya". According to the report, the amnesty was given in celebration of the Eid Al-Adha holiday.²⁹

It should be noted that recently it has been reported that talks began between the authorities in Mauritania and Salafi prisoners, as part of the government's attempt to lead them to abandoning the path of Jihad.

²⁷ <http://www.echoroukonline.com/ara/national/62935.html>

²⁸ <http://www.echoroukonline.com/ara/national/62848.html>

²⁹ <http://www.aljazeera.net/NR/EXERES/8F393EB0-53B9-44EE-B6B3-A6F88DFF3563.htm>

Africa

Somalia

- The "Al-Jazeera" network's website reported on November 7th that a leader of the "Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen" movement, Sheikh Fuad Muhammad Khalaf, promised that his organization will carry out terrorist attacks in Uganda and Burundi, following their participation in the African Union Peacekeeping Forces. He said that these countries will become targets for the organization "not only in words". He also called on the Somali people in Somalia and the Somali immigrants outside of Somalia to fight the "Crusading forces" which he claims oppose the implementation of Islamic Sharia in Somalia. It should be noted that the Al-Shabab organization has already carried out a terrorist attack in Uganda, killing 74 people whilst they were watching the World Cup games.³⁰
- In an interview given to the Al-Jazeera network on November 12th by the Somali "Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen" organization's spokesperson Ali Mahmud Raji, he declared that his organization's campaign to defeat the Somali government and push out the African Union Forces from Somalia, still continues and has even achieved strategic results. Raji said that the Mujahideen are waging fact-to-face battles against the "invading Crusader" forces, and added: "As long as the enemies of Islam are turning the Muslim countries into lawless places in Palestine, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Islamic Maghreb and Yemen, these wars will not stop."³¹

³⁰ <http://www.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/AB5A4229-32FE-48C0-AF62-FED7CE4F1F37.htm>

³¹ <http://www.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/0C05B5B7-9B5D-44E6-9CBA-45A891CA9669.htm>

The West and the rest of the world

France

A foiled attempt to assassinate Dalil Boubakeur, a representative of the moderate faction of Islam in France

- On November 12th, the "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" newspaper reported that the French security forces had arrested six members of a Jihadi cell who planned to assassinate the head of the Grand Mosque in Paris, Dalil Boubakeur. Boubakeur is a representative of moderate Islam in France and is considered to be close to the French authorities. The arrests were reported as having taken place over the weekend (the first weekend of November 2010) and the beginning of the week (the second week of November).

The arrests were carried out in three different operations. The first operation took place in northern Paris and led to the apprehension of a young Frenchman of Algerian origin, Salim Mu 'Min. It was suspected that he had spent six months undergoing military training and radical religious indoctrination in the Miram Shah region of Waziristan, as well as having internet correspondence on the subject of bomb manufacturing with Jihadi websites. The second operation occurred at Charles de-Gaulle Airport and resulted in the apprehension of two passengers from Egypt. The third operation in Paris resulted in the apprehension of three additional operatives. Most of the detainees are of Algerian origin.³²

Britain

- The "Al-Sharq Al-Awsat" newspaper reported on November 12th that the British police arrested a man who was then charged with inciting terrorist

³² <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&article=594912&issueno=11672>

actions against members of the British Parliament who voted for the invasion of Iraq. The accused published his inflammatory statements on a website, publishing the names of the Members of Parliament who voted for the invasion. The same website was mentioned in the trial of Roshonara Choudry which opened last month. Choudry stabbed the British politician Stephen Timms in an assassination attempt in May 2010.³³

³³ <http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=4&article=594914&issueno=11672>