

## The Jihadi Dialogue following the Terrorist Attack in Stockholm

### General

Two explosions shook the center of Stockholm, the Swedish capital, on December 11<sup>th</sup> 2010. At first, a car bomb laden with gas containers, detonated in one of the main streets of the city. Several minutes later and a few hundred meters from the site of the first explosion, a suicide bomber blew himself up. As a result of the explosion, the terrorist was killed and a number of people were injured.

A short time before the explosions, the Swedish TT news agency received a threatening letter mentioning Sweden's military presence in Afghanistan and the caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad, published five years ago in the Swedish press.

This attack, considered to be the first suicide attack in Scandinavia, aroused a widespread wave of responses on the Jihadi forums. The forum participants praised the attack, even though it did not result in any casualties, and called for a continuation of attacks on European soil.

This document aims to summarize the main points in the leading Jihadi forums, following the terrorist attack in Sweden.

### Details

#### The terrorist's will

On December 12<sup>th</sup> 2010, one day after the double attack, the "Shumukh Al-Islam" Jihadi forum (considered to be the leading Jihadi forum today) published exclusive photographs of the perpetrator of the attack, Taimour Abd Al-Wahhab Al-Abdali. Following this publication, other Jihadi forums as well as the global media also published photographs and details about the terrorist.

On that same day the terrorist's will was posted on the web. The will was uploaded to the "YouTube" video sharing website<sup>1</sup> and a partial transcript was posted on Jihadi forums as well.<sup>2</sup> The will is read by the terrorist in Swedish, with his image obscured, and it is accompanied by subtitles in Arabic on the background of a black flag identified with global Jihad in general and with Al-Qaeda in Iraq in particular.

The will begins with a caption, saying: "The will of Brother Taimour Abd Al-Wahhab, perpetrator of the operation in Stockholm, as revenge of the Prophet, on whom prayer and peace are upon". From the will, it is understood that the terrorist attack was carried out in retaliation for the publication of the caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad by the caricaturist Lars Vilks and for Sweden's involvement in the fighting in Afghanistan.

According to him, the terrorist attack is the fulfillment of the promise of the "State of Islam", alluding to the fact that the terrorist operated on behalf of the "Islamic State of Iraq".<sup>3</sup> In the will, the terrorist calls on Sweden to stop mocking the Prophet Muhammad, to retreat from Afghanistan and to stop the aid to the Jews and the Christians against the Muslims and Islam. Furthermore, he calls on the Muslims in Sweden to return to Islam and to abandon their loyalty to the infidels. Later on, the terrorist addresses his family, expressing regret for not keeping in contact with them over the past four years and confesses that his travels were not for the sake of business, as he told them, but for Jihad for Allah.

The video concludes with the following statement: "Do not forget your brother 'Monasser 1405'. Pray that he will avenge the Prophet's revenge, prayer and

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1ELnf9oIyo> (The will was removed from YouTube website shortly after it was posted).

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84459>

<sup>3</sup> The leader of Al-Qaeda in Iraq, Abu Omar Al-Baghdadi, killed in April 2010, has in the past threatened to attack Swedish companies and kill the Swedish caricaturist, Lars Vilks. He even promised a financial reward to the person who carries this out: <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84459>

peace be upon Him". Apparently, "Monasser 1405" is a surfer identified with Al-Qaeda in Iraq, specializing in technical aspects.<sup>4</sup>



**An illustration of the terrorist as it appeared on the Jihadi forums after the attack: "The terrorist attack in Sweden, who will carry it out other than the knights of the 'Islamic State of Iraq'"<sup>5</sup>**

Photographs and personal details from his life

The response to the terrorist attack and the publication of the terrorist's will and photographs was not late in coming. The supervisor of the technical chat room at the "Shumukh Al-Islam" forum, Maysara, chose to emphasize France's fear of terrorist attacks with regards to the upcoming New Year and following the terrorist attack in Sweden.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YwQC0UjXBDw> (A video produced by "Monasser 1405" and uploaded to YouTube, showing photographs of Abu Musab Al-Zarqawi); <http://dreamscity.net/vb/t8992.html> (Gratitude for the help of "Monasser 1405" in the technical field of Jihadi forums).

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84459&page=2>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84445>

One of the surfers, who may be residing in Sweden or in contact with elements within Sweden, wrote of the country's authorities' embarrassment and of the cries of joy of an Iraqi Christian family following the terrorist attack. The surfer criticized the Islamic League in Sweden who condemned the attack, and added that the Swedish government is the most loathsome government in all of Europe. He concludes with the following statement: "Allah has soldiers in Sweden... and for some years the Muslims in Sweden have been helping the Jihad theaters with people..."<sup>7</sup>

Photographs and personal details of the terrorist were first published on the "Shumukh Al-Islam" forum. A surfer called "Abu Sulaiman Al-Nasir" posted an exclusive photograph from the past of the terrorist Taimour Abd Al-Wahhab.<sup>8</sup>



<sup>7</sup> <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84445&page=2>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84418>

Another surfer published additional photographs of the terrorist, including his personal details taken from a dating website he was registered on. Taimour Abd Al-Wahhab, 29 years old, born in Baghdad, married and father of two daughters with a Bachelor's degree. Abd Al-Wahhab moved to Sweden in 1992 and in 2001 he left for Britain to study. On his personal profile, Abd Al-Wahhab stated that he is a devout Sunni Muslim.<sup>9</sup>



**Taimour Abd Al-Wahhab's personal profile from the Muslima.com dating website**

Following his death, eulogies and Jihadi songs of praise were posted on the forums. One of them was written in English by Asadullah Al-Shishani, a senior surfer who also wrote a eulogy for Mustafa Abu Al-Yazid, the Al-Qaeda leader in Afghanistan killed in May 2010.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84418&page=2>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84627>

A discussion amongst the surfers surrounding the characteristics of the attack

The discussion between the surfers also pertained to the consequences of the terrorist attack. One of the surfers posted a discussion on the "Shumukh Al-Islam" forum about the benefits of this type of attack, which does not result in many casualties. According to him, there is no alternative to such terrorist attacks even if they are not perfect, as from these attacks one can learn and refine the modus operandi. Furthermore, according to him, these attacks spread fear and increase the financial expenditure of the state due to increased security measures.<sup>11</sup> This idea is repeated in several additional correspondences, where the surfers speak of the overall economic attrition these terrorist attacks cause the European countries.<sup>12</sup>

Another surfer reinforces these statements, saying that this type of attack damages the residents' security, but he also claims that the suicide bomber should have chosen Christmas as the time to carry out the terrorist attack in Stockholm.<sup>13</sup> Another surfer notes that an individual operation such as this last one, encourages those who hesitate to carry out such attacks. He further adds that Sheikh Anwar Al-Awlaki has given authorization to these types of attack, and has even praised the actions of Nidal Hassan<sup>14</sup> and Omar Al-Faruq.<sup>15</sup>

It should be noted that one of the surfers at the "Ana Muslim" forum, which is an Islamic forum with Jihadi content, wonders whether the terrorist attack in Stockholm is religiously legitimate. One of the surfers replies that several religious clerics have permitted the execution of terrorist attacks against civilians

<sup>11</sup> <http://shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84381>

<sup>12</sup> <http://shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84450>

<sup>13</sup> <http://shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84381>

<sup>14</sup> Carried out the shooting at a military base in Texas in November 2009.

<sup>15</sup> Tried to bring down a passenger plane in December 2009.

and against countries harming Muslims. In this respect he mentions Ibn Uthaimen, Abu Muhammad Al-Maqdisi, Sheikh Nasir Al-Fahd and others.<sup>16</sup>

#### Following the terrorist attack – more threats to Europe

Together with praise for the suicide bomber and a discussion on the efficacy of the terrorist attack and its legitimacy, threats to carry out additional attacks on European soil were also seen in the forums. One of the surfers claimed that there are countries that should be attacked before Sweden, such as Italy and Britain.<sup>17</sup> Another surfer wonders what the next target for a terrorist attack will be, after attacks were carried out in New York, Washington, Moscow, Madrid, London, Mumbai and Stockholm. In response, a surfer expresses his wish for attacks in Washington, Copenhagen or Teheran.<sup>18</sup>

A surfer called "Abu Sulaiman Al-Nasir", who was the individual who posted the exclusive photograph of the suicide bomber Taimour Abd Al-Wahhab on the "Shumukh Al-Islam" forum, posted an audio tape (on the same forum) containing a threat directed towards the NATO countries following the terrorist attack in Stockholm. Surfers understand that "Abu Sulaiman Al-Nasir" may be a target for foreign intelligence services and therefore plead with him to get rid of his cell phone and take security measures.<sup>19</sup>

A search on the web for "Abu Sulaiman Al-Nasir" resulted in the information that he is a senior figure with Al-Qaeda in Iraq.<sup>20</sup> It should be noted that there are

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.muslm.net/vb/showthread.php?t=411548>

<sup>17</sup> <http://shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84369>

<sup>18</sup> <http://shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84401>

<sup>19</sup> <http://shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84506>

<sup>20</sup> In August 2010 a call was posted on the "Al-Boraq" forum by Al-Nasir calling on the Mujahideen in Iraq to declare a state of alert due to a joint operation of the American and Iraqi forces in various regions of Iraq: <http://alboraq.biz/showthread.php?t=176483>.

The "Al-Quds Al-Arabi" newspaper called him the Al-Qaeda spokesperson in Iraq:

<http://www.alquds.co.uk/index.asp?fname=data\2010\08\08-24\24qpt72.htm&arc=data\2010\08\08-30\24qpt72.htm>

similarities between the name "Abu Sulaiman Al-Nasir" and the name "Al-Nasir li-Din Allah Abu Sulaiman",<sup>21</sup> which is the name of the new Minister of War of the "Islamic State of Iraq", appointed in May 2010 to replace Abu Hamza Al-Muhajir who was killed in April 2010.<sup>22</sup>

In the audio tape, Al-Nasir threatens to carry out more terrorist attacks against the NATO countries and calls on the Mujahideen to sabotage the end of the year celebrations by issuing a wave of false warnings of terrorist attacks. Al-Nasir, who calls himself "one of the supporters of global Jihad", claims that this is his second message to the NATO countries and clarifies that their security will be achieved by withdrawing their forces from Afghanistan and stopping the war on Islam. Otherwise, the fire of the campaign will reach the heart of Europe.

On the tape, which is one minute and 47 seconds long, Al-Nasir says that the terrorist attack in Stockholm marks the beginning of a new era of Jihad, where Europe is the battlefield. In conclusion Al-Nasir emphasizes that any country that withdraws its forces from Afghanistan and stop its war on the Muslims, will gain security and its people will live in peace.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> <http://www.masrawy.com/News/World/AFP/2010/December/14/3319726.aspx>

<sup>22</sup> On this, see:

[http://www.ict.org.il/Portals/0/Internet%20Monitoring%20Group/JWMG\\_Periodical\\_Review\\_May\\_2010\\_No\\_2.pdf](http://www.ict.org.il/Portals/0/Internet%20Monitoring%20Group/JWMG_Periodical_Review_May_2010_No_2.pdf), page 11.

<sup>23</sup> <http://shamikh1.net/vb/showthread.php?t=84506>