



**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 First Half of November 2014**

## Highlights

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

- Ahmad al-Faruq, the head of Al-Qaeda's branch in the Indian Subcontinent, accuses the Pakistani regime of persecutory policies against religious sages who express their support for the mujahideen. This is in addition to the regime's collaboration with the United States, the enemy of Islam. For this reason, Muslims must act to topple the Pakistani regime.
- Sheikh Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, leader of the Islamic State, condemns the coalition offensive against his organization and promises that it is doomed to fail. According to him, the Islamic State is continuing to expand and annexing additional provinces and territories, like in North Africa. In addition, he declares that he welcomes the oaths of allegiance to the Islamic State taken by various jihadist groups, and he calls on Muslims to join the provinces of the Islamic State that are closest to where they live.
- Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Julani, the leader of the Al-Nusra Front, describes the offensive by coalition forces against the Islamic State as a war against Islam and Muslims. In addition, he describes the military achievements of the Al-Nusra Front in Syria and emphasizes that other jihadist factions in Syria should not be considered infidels, as the Islamic State considers them.
- Sheikh Abu Basir Naser al-Wuhayshi, the leader of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, declares the withdrawal of American forces from Afghanistan to be a victory for the Afghan nation, and shows that the United States failed in its war against Muslims in Afghanistan just like it failed in Iraq and is destined to fail in other Islamic lands. In addition, he threatens that the United States and the American people will pay a heavy price for its persistent war against Muslims.
- Sheikh Ali al-Anasi, a senior commander in Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, gives a series of lectures on the topic of military strategy. In addition, he refers to the cooperation between Iran, the Houthis and the United States in the war against the Sunnis and the mujahideen in Yemen, and he calls on Sunnis to unite against this phenomenon.
- The Islamic State's Finance Bureau publishes an announcement regarding the minting of coins to be used as the official currency in areas under its control. The announcement explains that the Caliph of the Islamic State, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, ordered the minting of gold, silver and

copper coins.

- Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, which operates in the Sinai Peninsula, swears allegiance to the Islamic State and changes his name to the Islamic State in the Sinai Peninsula.
- Sheikh Abu Musab al-Maqdisi, a senior member of the Islamic State, publishes a collection of tips for the mujahideen in Egypt. Al-Maqdisi claims that the war against the infidels should be moved to Cairo and other large cities, such that Sinai will serve as the base from which they go out to war. They should attack government targets and offices, and accept immigrants who come to wage jihad in the country. In addition, they should attack infidel groups like the Christians.

## Table of Contents

Highlights .....	2
New Publications .....	6
Ideology.....	6
The Rift between Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State .....	8
Fatwas.....	9
Oaths of Allegiance to the Islamic State.....	10
Oaths of Allegiance to Mullah Muhammad Omar, Emir of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan .	10
Strategy .....	11
Guidebooks and Instruction Pamphlets.....	12
Promoting the Myth of the Martyr.....	13
Magazines .....	14
Reports from the Field .....	15
Afghanistan-Pakistan.....	15
The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan .....	16
The Arabian Peninsula.....	17
Iraq.....	21
The Islamic State.....	22
The Islamic State - Baghdad .....	24
The Islamic State – Saladin Province .....	25
The Islamic State - Nineveh Province .....	25
The Islamic State – Diyala Province .....	26
The Islamic State – Fallujah Province .....	27
Al-Sham [The Levant] .....	27
Syria .....	28
The Al-Nusra Front in Syria.....	28
The Islamic State – Al-Raqqah Province .....	32
The Islamic State – Aleppo Province .....	34
The Islamic State – Al-Khayr Province .....	34
Other jihadist organizations .....	35

The Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip .....	36
The Islamic State in Sinai Province (formerly Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis) .....	38
Other jihadist organizations .....	39
The Maghreb [North Africa] .....	41
Egypt .....	43
Nigeria .....	44
Somalia .....	44
The Indian Subcontinent .....	45
Iran.....	45
The West.....	46
Miscellaneous .....	46

## New Publications

### Ideology

- On November 12, 2014, the Al-Furqan jihadist media institution published a video that included a speech by Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, under the title taken from a Quranic verse: “Even if the Disbelievers Despise Such”. The video was published several days after a rumor that al-Baghdadi had been killed in the coalition offensive. According to al-Baghdadi, the stated plan of the international coalition, led by the United States, to destroy the Islamic State (IS) is doomed to fail. According to him, first the Jews and Christians will be forced to send ground forces to clash with IS fighters, which already started in practice as a result of US President Obama’s announced intention to send 1,500 American soldiers to Iraq in order to train Iraqi and Kurdish security forces to battle the IS. In addition, he criticized the Arab states participating in the coalition, especially Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates. According to him, their participation in “a Crusader campaign is nothing but a publicity ploy” that illustrates “the weakness of the Crusaders and their allies”.

Al-Baghdadi emphasized that the Islamic State is continuing to expand to new lands such as the Arabian Peninsula, Yemen, Egypt, Libya and Algeria, and will continue to spread to Rome despite coalition efforts to break the strength of the IS. He noted: “The Islamic State soldiers...will never stop fighting, even if only one soldier is left”. In addition, he announced that he welcomes the oaths of allegiance to the IS made by jihadist groups and demanded that every Muslim join the province closest to him and obey the ruler of that province. Al-Baghdadi noted that efforts should first be concentrated on fighting against the Shi’ites and then against the House of Saud, which rules today over Saudi Arabia. Later, he expressed support for the mujahideen fighting against the Houthis in Yemen and for the mujahideen in the Sinai Peninsula fighting against Egyptian regime. In addition, he lavished praise for the recent success in sowing fear among the Jews. He then called on jihad fighters in Libya, Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco to spread the faith in the Oneness of God and to reject secularism. Finally, he supported IS fighters and encouraged them to continue to wage jihad against the ruthless rulers, their soldiers and their supporters.<sup>1</sup>

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

- The Almaqreze Center for Historical Studies published a new edition of an essay written by the director of the center, Sheikh Hani al-Sibai, titled, “An Attempt to Humanize One of the Nation’s Diseases: The Close Enemy [is the] Basis of the Disease”. The essay dealt with the danger facing the Muslim Nation by those that he called “the close enemy” operating in the Middle East, such as the regimes and their supporters, non-religious individuals and parties, and non-Muslims who pose a threat to the security of Muslim rule. The essay claimed that killing the close enemy is an obligation anchored in shari’a. According to the essay, as long as the close enemy continues to nest in the body of the Muslim Nation, the latter will be weak and its resistance to external dangers will be weakened. The essay further claimed that religious sages are obligated to warn Muslims of groups who pervert Islam, such as the Druze, Alawites, Ishmaelites and others. It should be noted that the first edition of the essay was published in 2007.<sup>2</sup>



**The essay banner**

- A jihad activist affiliated with the IS posted an online collection of publications to Twitter titled, “Meet the Caliphate State”. The collection of publications dealt with the ideology of the IS and included responses to critiques from critics.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>3</sup> <http://justpaste.it/ReEx1>



**The banner of the online collection of publications**

- Visitors to the Areen al-Mujahideen jihadist Web forum, which serves as a platform for publications from the Al-Nusra Front, held a short discussion regarding the captivity of Yazidi women in Iraq by the IS. Among other things, participants in the discussion quoted the claim that the captivity of women today is erroneously linked in the public consciousness to prostitution and rape – something that is liable to tarnish image of Islam – and, therefore, it is preferable to avoid it at this stage. Another visitor expressed reservations about taking women captive who did not actively participate in the fighting.<sup>4</sup>
- The jihadist media institution of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), Al-Malahim, published a video titled, “The Only Nation: Rights and Obligations (second lesson)” by Sheikh Harith bin Ghazi al-Nadhari, a member of the organization’s Shura Council.<sup>5</sup>

### ***The Rift between Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State***

- The Salafi-jihadist Web portal, Minbar Al-Tawhid wal-Jihad, published an article titled, “The Proper Methods for Killing and Slaughter” (85 pp.) by Sheikh Abu al-Mundhir al-Shinqiti. The article examined the way in which non-Muslim prisoners must be treated as well as the conditions and methods for killing them. The article criticized the beheadings and slaughter of captives that characterize the IS. According to al-Shinqiti, these methods of execution were not at all characteristic of the Prophet Mohammad and his companions and, therefore, whoever carries them out is deviating from the Sunnah, which commands more humane ways of performing executions. Moreover, the Islamic State’s methods of execution tarnish the

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<sup>4</sup> <http://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>5</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

reputation of jihad and deter people from joining the organization. “Do not be surprised if one day you hear that the mujahideen are beheading and slaughtering people as punishment for religious legal issues such as shaving a beard, smoking and applying makeup!” Al-Shinqiti added that it is a major problem that needs to be eradicated.<sup>6</sup>

- The Al-‘Awali jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with the Al-Nusra Front, published a propaganda video titled, “Al-Sheitat: Tragedy of a Tribe. Documentation of the Massacre [Carried out by] Daash of the Al-Sheitat Tribe”. The video focused on the massacre of the Al-Sheitat tribe, which refused to swear allegiance to the IS and were slaughtered as a result in August 2014.<sup>7</sup> It should be noted that the media institution focuses on publications critical of the IS. According to its Twitter account, its intention is to record and publicize what is taking place in the Levant, to explain the way of the Sunnis, and to help the residents of the Levant.<sup>8</sup>
- A visitor to the Al-Fidaa jihadist Web forum published a link to an interview conducted by the Al-Aan television station in Dubai with Abu Hafs al-Mauritani, the former mufti of Al-Qaeda. In the interview, al-Mauritani claimed that Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi’s caliphate is illegal and based on corrupt foundations. In addition, he emphasized that one cannot remain silent in the face of the crimes being carried out by the IS against women and children, and that immediate action must be taken to strike a blow to the organization’s power base.<sup>9</sup>



**Abu Hafs al-Mauritani**

### **Fatwas**

- Sheikh Turki al-Ban'ale, a prominent adjudicator from Bahrain, published a fatwa regarding

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<sup>6</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>7</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>8</sup> <https://twitter.com/alawalee5> (Arabic).

<sup>9</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

“whether it is permissible for Muslims in arenas of jihad to abduct infidel women”. Al-Ban’ale explained that, in principle, it is permitted to abduct infidel women but it is forbidden to kill them; however, the issue is subject to religious legal considerations as well as global and regional considerations. One must consider the benefits versus the risks of such action. For example, if the Muslim leader of a country believes that the abduction of infidel women will cause harm to Muslim women then it should not be done despite the fact that it is permitted in principle.<sup>10</sup>

### ***Oaths of Allegiance to the Islamic State***

- The Al-Ghuraba jihadist media institution, which is involved in publicity for the IS, published a song calling on jihad activists in Libya to swear allegiance to the organization and to its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.<sup>11</sup> In addition, and unrelated to the previous publication, two videos were posted on YouTube documenting the mass oath of allegiance taken by Muslims in Derna, Libya, to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and the IS.<sup>12</sup>

### ***Oaths of Allegiance to Mullah Muhammad Omar, Emir of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan***

- The Imam Al-Bukhari Battalion, a Salafi-jihadist group operating in Syria, renewed its oath of allegiance to Mullah Muhammad Omar, Emir of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. Visitors to the Al-Fidaa jihadist Web forum, which is affiliated with Al-Qaeda, praised this step and noted that Uzbeki jihad activists should learn a lesson from this and also swear allegiance to Mullah Omar.<sup>13</sup> These calls were raised as a result of the announcement made by the Islamic Movement in Uzbekistan that it had joined the IS in October 2014.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

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

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>13</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.alaraby.co.uk/politics/bf286e98-ac70-45c2-af75-d359d3e53d06> (Arabic).



**A clip from the video**

## **Strategy**

- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum published correspondence encouraging terrorist attacks carried out by individuals in what has become known as “lone wolf” attacks. The visitor suggested kidnapping Western civilians for bargaining purposes, as the Abu Sayyaf group did in the Philippines, or hijacking planes. According to her, these types of kidnappings have proved themselves to be very effective and beneficial for jihadist organizations. She added that hijacking planes could help with smuggling weapons and strengthen media hype around the event. Finally, the visitor recommended ways to carry out these attacks: establish a group for intelligence gathering, a group to provide the tools for carrying out the attack, and a group to carry out the operation. The visitor went on to describe the role of each the group. For example, she noted that members of the group carrying out the operation must have a high level of physical fitness, be able to move around and camouflage themselves and carry out the operation quickly; they must be brave, willing to die as martyrs, dedicated to the mission and able to follow orders during the kidnapping operation.<sup>15</sup>
- A writer calling himself Gharib al-Ikhwan published an article regarding how the IS copes with the intelligence-gathering campaign being waged against it by the United States. In the article, the writes noted that the beheadings of journalists carried out by the organization served their purpose because they deterred agents and spies from penetrating IS territory disguised as journalists. The writer explained that the IS has been successful in preventing the United States from entering its territory and gathering critical intelligence from the field. The writer even

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

praised the IS for exposing Muslims to the true practice of Islam and called on Muslims to support the organization in its new arenas of operation.<sup>16</sup>

### Guidebooks and Instruction Pamphlets

- A visitor to the Al-Jihad Al-Alami Web forum published the “Book of Terror” on the forum’s military section, an English book designed to train Muslims on how to carry out terrorist attacks in the heart of infidel states.<sup>17</sup> It should be noted that the book was previously published several times on jihadist forums.



The banner of the “Book of Terror”

- A visitor to the Al-Jihad Al-Alami Web forum published on the forum’s military section the “Military Encyclopedia of Salafist Groups in Egypt”, which included a great deal of military advice and guidance.<sup>18</sup> Another visitor to the same forum published an encyclopedia concerning the manufacturing of weapons.<sup>19</sup>
- The Al-Malahem jihadist media institution, the official media institution of AQAP, published a “Military Strategy Brochure”. The document included eight chapters concerning various military issues, such as: the importance of military strategy, world powers, war manoeuvres and military technology.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> <http://theshamnews.com/?p=330> (Arabic).

<sup>17</sup> <http://shabakataljihad.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>18</sup> <http://shabakataljihad.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>19</sup> <http://shabakataljihad.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>20</sup> <http://shabakataljihad.com/vb> (Arabic).



The banner of the series of lessons titled, “Military Strategy”

## Promoting the Myth of the Martyr

- The Al-Malahem jihadist media institution published a statement by AQAP regarding the death of two martyrs from the organization named Nabil al-Dhahab and Shawki al-Ba'dani. According to the statement, the two men were killed in an American drone strike on November 3, 2014. The statement praised the two martyrs and described their many jihad activities, and promised that their blood was not spilled in vain.<sup>21</sup> In addition, the Al-Malahem media institution dedicated a song in their memory titled, “Tidings [Leading Up] to the Victory”.<sup>22</sup>



The banner of the song dedicated to the two martyrs

<sup>21</sup> <http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>22</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

- The Al-Kataib Foundation for Media Production, which serves Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen in Somalia, published a video by Sheikh Ali Mahmud Raji, the spokesman for the organization, in memory of Sheikh Ahmed Abdi Godane (also known as Mukhtar Abu Zubair), the leader of the organization who was killed in an American drone strike in southern Somalia on September 1, 2014.<sup>23</sup>



**The banner of the announcement**

- A Salafi-jihadist group in Libya called “The Abu Salim Martyrs Brigade” published a eulogy in memory of one of its commanders, Nasir Harun (1974-2014). According to the announcement, Harun was killed on November 13, 2014 as a result of a joint air strike carried out by the air forces of Egypt, Libya, the UAE and the Crusaders.<sup>24</sup>



**Nasir Harun**

## Magazines

- During the first half of November 2014, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan published issue no. 102 of “*Al-Sumood*” magazine in Arabic,<sup>25</sup> and issue no. 68 the English magazine, *In Fight*.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>23</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>24</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>25</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>26</sup> [http://www.jhuf.net/showthread.php?22409-Islami-Emirate-Afghanistan-IN-FIGHT-68-\(08-2014\)](http://www.jhuf.net/showthread.php?22409-Islami-Emirate-Afghanistan-IN-FIGHT-68-(08-2014))



The banner of *In Fight* and *Al-Sumood* magazines

- Issues no. 20-14 of the *Al-Naba* newsletter, which is published every week on Mondays and Thursdays. The newsletter was presented as “covering news about the Islamic Caliphate” but mostly covers operations carried out in Iraq and not in Syria. The operations included: mortar fire directed at concentrations of Peshmerga military forces, sniper fire targeting soldiers, and the detonation of explosives targeting military convoys.<sup>27</sup>

## Reports from the Field

### Afghanistan-Pakistan

*The Afghanistan and Pakistan arenas continued to be unstable, with the Taliban carrying out large and substantial terrorist attacks and exploiting the fragile situation. On November 10, 2014 at least 10 police officers were killed in three attacks carried out by the Taliban in three different cities in Afghanistan. The three attacks were carried out by suicide terrorists against police targets and the Taliban claimed responsibility a short time after they were implemented.*<sup>28</sup>

*On November 20, 2014 a large suicide attack took place along the Pakistan-India border: at least 57 people were killed when a suicide terrorist blew himself up following a ceremony in which Pakistani and Indian soldiers took part. The attack took place in a parking lot on the Pakistani side,*

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>28</sup> <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/11/10/us-afghanistan-blasts-idUSKCN0IU0FU20141110> (English).

approximately 500 meters from the border, and no Indian soldiers were hurt.<sup>29</sup> The Taliban later threatened to attack Indians as well, who they claimed were killing hundreds of Muslims in the Kashmir region.<sup>30</sup>

On November 11, 2014 four gunmen were killed in an American drone strike in northwest Pakistan. The strike took place against suspected terrorists in the tribal area of North Waziristan. The Pakistani government expressed its protest to the United State over the attack.<sup>31</sup>

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

- The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan reported a series of attacks that its fighters carried out against American forces at army bases in the country. In the attacks, which took place on November 1, 2014, many rockets were launched at army bases that contained a large amount of ammunition. According to the Islamic Emirate, the attacks resulted in many casualties among the American forces.<sup>32</sup>
- The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan published a statement regarding the Zionist aggression in Al-Aqsa, according to which Zionist occupying forces have recently been repeatedly damaging the sanctity of the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Muslims who pray in it. The Islamic Emirate vigorously denounced these acts and called on all Arab governments and Islamic organizations to take a stand, apply diplomatic pressure and prevent Israelis from doing as they please on Al-Aqsa. At a time when many countries, including some Arab countries, are joining the American alliance against the IS, a new Muslim alliance should be formed to protect the Al-Aqsa Mosque instead of serving American interests.<sup>33</sup>
- The Taliban in Afghanistan published several reports on its Twitter account, in Arabic, including: a report on operations that were carried out in October 2014,<sup>34</sup> a report on the deaths and

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<sup>29</sup> <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/11/02/us-pakistan-india-attack-idUSKBN0IM0GP20141102> (English).

<sup>30</sup> <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/11/05/us-pakistan-india-attacks-idUSKBN0IP0IU20141105> (English).

<sup>31</sup> <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/11/11/us-pakistan-drones-idUSKCN0IV1II20141111> (English).

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

<sup>33</sup> <http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>34</sup> <https://twitter.com/alemara1arabic/status/529947333455536129>

injuries of dozens of Afghani soldiers in Deh Rahwod District<sup>35</sup> and Helmand Province,<sup>36</sup> a claim of responsibility for the death of eight American soldiers in a suicide attack in Bagram District,<sup>37</sup> and a document detailing the achievements following the implementation of shari'a in Afghanistan.<sup>38</sup>

## The Arabian Peninsula

*The civil war in Yemen continued with even greater vigor. AQAP fighters and several Sunni tribes continued to wage a war of attrition against the Houthis in light of the latter gaining control over Sana'a and other areas of Yemen in September 2014. According to testimony by Sunni tribes, the Houthis are receiving backing from members of the former Republican Guard who are loyal to the previous president, Ali Abdallah Salih. As a result of the violent clashes that took place between Sunni tribes in Rada', in the Khabza region in central Yemen, and armed Houthis, 90 people were killed, including at least 64 Houthis. As a result of this escalation, Sunni dignitaries and tribal heads in Rada' and Al-Baydha appealed to Yemen's Defense Minister, Mahmud al-Subaih, to intervene and prevent former Republican Guard forces from bombarding the tribal areas. The head of one Sunni tribe emphasized that the tribes will not agree to a takeover of Yemen by Houthi tribes and their supporters: "We will fight them for 100 years until they leave our region". According to him, many tribes including Al 'Amar, Al-Jayshiyya, Al- Riyashiya, Al-'Azzam, Al-Awdh and Humayr expressed their willingness to help in the war against the Houthis and started sending fighters to battle against them, and stated that "we will move the war to Sana'a and Sa'ada".<sup>39</sup>*

*Meanwhile, bitterness increased among the Sunni residents of Sana'a and other areas taken over by the Houthis. For example, students at Sana'a University held a protest against Houthi militias and demanded that they leave the university complex.<sup>40</sup> On January 7, 2014 President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi declared his intention to form a new government to be headed by Khalid*

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<sup>35</sup> <https://twitter.com/alemara1arabic/status/530061559255404544>

<sup>36</sup> <https://twitter.com/alemara1arabic/status/530417497791807488>

<sup>37</sup> <http://justpaste.it/istechadiya>

<sup>38</sup> <http://justpaste.it/hyz4>

<sup>39</sup> <http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/arab-and-world/2014/11/14/-مقتل-25-حوثياً-في-كمين-نصبه-مسلحو-القبائل-في-رداع.html> (Arabic).

<sup>40</sup> <http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/arab-and-world/yemen/2014/11/12/-الحوثيون-يواصلون-سيطر-تهم-على-جامعة-صنعاء.html> (Arabic).

*Maafuz Abdullah Bahah in an attempt to end the political crisis in the country.<sup>41</sup> However, this effort did not bear fruit due to the Houthis' refusal to join the new government.*

*This situation plays into the hands of AQAP, which seeks to leverage the feelings of anger and frustration over the Yemeni regime's powerlessness to recruit supporters and establish alliances with Sunni tribes against the Houthis. A senior Al-Qaeda field commander known as Hamza al-Zinjibari accused the Houthis of collaborating with the United States and claimed that it was evident that a considerable effort was being made to promote the agenda of Iran, weaken the power of Yemen's Sunni residents, seize control over their territories and raise the Shi'ites into positions of power in Yemen. Meanwhile, clashes continued between Yemen's army and members of the organization. For example, AQAP fighters killed 13 Yemeni soldiers and kidnapped 15 other soldiers in Al-Hudaydah Province in western Yemen after breaking into the security forces headquarters in the province.<sup>42</sup>*

- During the first half of November 2014, the jihadist media institution of AQAP, Al-Malahem, published the following:
  - A speech by the leader of the organization, Abu Basir Naser al-Wuhayshi, titled, "Signs of Victory". In the speech, al-Wuhayshi referred to the defeat of the United States in Afghanistan in light of the withdrawal of American and British forces from Afghanistan, and he accused the US of committing war crimes, supporting Israel and sowing conflict in Iraq and Syria. In addition, al-Wuhayshi threatened the American people and warned that American policies would lead it into the abyss. He ended his speech by blessing the mujahideen and promising victory for the Muslim Nation.<sup>43</sup>



**"Signs of Victory" – a speech by the leader of AQAP**

<sup>41</sup> <http://www.skynewsarabia.com/web/article/700841/اليمن-قرار-جمهوري-بتشكيل-الحكومة-الجديدة>

<sup>42</sup> <http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/arab-and-world/2014/11/02/القاعدة-تحتجز-15-جنديا-ر-هائن-بعد-هجوم-في-اليمن.html> (Arabic).

<sup>43</sup> <https://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic); <http://justpaste.it/hvq7>

- A two-part video that included an interview with Sheikh Nassir bin Ali al-Ansi, a senior member of AQAP. In the interview, al-Ansi discussed several topics, including the coalition’s war against Iraq and Syria, the attitude towards the United States, the closeness between Iran and the United States and the Houthis’ expansion in Yemen. For example, he noted that lone wolf terrorist attacks carried out by individuals in the West against local security forces are helping in the battle against Crusader forces.<sup>44</sup>



The interview banner

- An interview with Jalal Bala’idi al-Marqashi, known as Hamza al-Zinjabari, regarding the war with the Houthis in Yemen. According to him, members of the organization had managed to invade the city of Rada’ from three different points and push back the Houthis to the outskirts of the city. He then described how the operation was carried out. He noted that the operation included a suicide attack against concentrations of Houthis in the city. He added that the US was collaborating with the Houthis and helping them in their battle by providing drones, among other things. Finally, he emphasized the important role played by Sunni tribes in Yemen in the war against the Houthis and called on them to take an active part in eradicating the Houthi threat.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>44</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>45</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic); <http://justpaste.it/hyty>



The interview banner

- An announcement that visitors would be given the opportunity to direct questions to Sheikh Nassir bin Ali al-Ansi, a senior member of the organization, for 72 hours beginning on November 9, 2014 via the Twitter account <https://twitter.com/ABMOGA>.<sup>46</sup>
- A video regarding a man named Rasheed Abdullah al-Hibshi, who was presented as the person in charge of the national security service in the Wadi region and the Hadhramaut desert who had maintained close ties with the American and with senior officials in the Yemeni and Saudi governments in the framework of the “war on terror”. Among the topics addressed by al-Hibshi in the video: the operation methods of the national security service the theft of oil and natural maritime resources in Yemen by the US, the American plan to fight against the mujahideen in Yemen, and short explanations of the operational methods of drones and methods of recruiting spies. Al-Hishbi ended the video by calling on all spies, collaborators and intelligence personnel to surrender to the mujahideen before it is too late.<sup>47</sup>



Confessions of an intelligence officer held captive by AQAP

<sup>46</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>47</sup> <http://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

- A visitor to the Al-Fida jihadist Web forum published a short biography of Sheikh Nassir bin Ali al-Ansi, a senior AQAP commander.<sup>48</sup>

## Iraq

*November began with another slaughter carried out by the IS, this time against members of the Albu Nimr tribe, a Sunni tribe from Al-Anbar Province that also participated in the tribal coalition that opposed Al-Qaeda in 2005-2006.<sup>49</sup> According to several reports, members of the organization executed over 500 members of this tribe in a move that, according to some interpretations, could cause alienation and a rift between the organization and Sunni tribes in the province.<sup>50</sup>*

*Meanwhile, the Iraqi government continued its struggle against the IS. In addition to declaring the intention to arm Sunni tribes in Al-Anbar Province,<sup>51</sup> the Prime Minister of Iraq, Haider al-Abadi, announced the dismissal of 26 commanders as a result of incompetence, in a step meant to improve and optimize the army's capabilities.<sup>52</sup> At the same time, efforts against the organization continued in the field and included the dismantling of dozens of explosive charges that were hidden in Hīt and Babil.<sup>53</sup>*

*In addition, the Iraqi government welcomed the US decision to send 1,500 soldiers to train*

<sup>48</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>49</sup> <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/security/2014/11/iraq-tribe-albu-nimr-who-are-they.html#>;  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/11/141103\\_iraq\\_sunni\\_tribe\\_killing](http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/11/141103_iraq_sunni_tribe_killing) (Arabic).

<sup>50</sup> <http://www.alhadathnews.net/archives/140964>

<sup>51</sup> [http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/11/141109\\_iraq\\_anbar\\_tribes\\_army](http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/11/141109_iraq_anbar_tribes_army) (Arabic).

<sup>52</sup> <http://www.al-tagheer.com/news73377.html>

<sup>53</sup> <http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/arab-and-world/iraq/2014/11/10/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%82-%D8%AA%D9%81%D9%83%D9%8A%D9%83-%D8%B9%D8%B4%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%A8%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%B3%D9%81%D8%A9-%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%82%D8%B1%D8%A8-%D9%85%D9%86-%D9%87%D9%8A%D8%AA.html>;  
<http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/arab-and-world/iraq/2014/11/11/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%82-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%AB%D9%88%D8%B1-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D9%85%D8%B9%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%84-%D9%84%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%A8%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%B3%D9%81%D8%A9-%D8%B4%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%84-%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%A8%D9%84.html> (both in Arabic).

*Iraqi and Kurdish forces in the framework of the battle against the IS.<sup>54</sup> Britain also joined in this decision and announced that it was sending additional training forces to Iraq.<sup>55</sup>*

*The first half of November ended with reports of a renewed takeover by Iraqi forces of the Baiji oil distillery, the largest oil distillery in the country, which had been under the control of the IS in recent months.<sup>56</sup>*

### **The Islamic State**

- The jihadist media institution of the Islamic State, Al-I'tisam, published a video titled, “The Resolve of the Defiant”. The video opened with a brief overview of the city of Kobane, which the IS refers to as ‘Ayn al-Islam, and of the Kurdish People’s Protection Units (YPG), which was presented as a secular infidel organization that must be fought against. Most of the video included clips from the media about the battles in Kobane and documentation of gunfire exchanges between IS and YPG forces. In the final part of the video, the narrator heaped praise on the IS and its fighters, and threatened the Crusaders and the West. The video included English subtitles.<sup>57</sup>



**“The Resolve of the Defiant” – praises and messages of encouragement for IS fighters in Kobane**

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<sup>54</sup> <http://arabic.cnn.com/middleeast/2014/11/08/urgent-iraq-coalition-training>

<sup>55</sup> [http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/11/141105\\_britain\\_iraq\\_trainers](http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/11/141105_britain_iraq_trainers) (Arabic).

<sup>56</sup> <http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/arab-and-world/iraq/2014/11/14/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%82-%D9%8A%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%86-%D8%B9%D9%86-%D8%AA%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%B1-%D9%85%D8%AF%D9%8A%D9%86%D8%A9-%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%AC%D9%8A-%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%83%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%84.html> (Arabic).

<sup>57</sup> <http://theshamnews.com/?p=363> (Arabic).

- The Islamic State’s Finance Bureau published an announcement regarding the minting of coins to be used as the official currency in areas under its control. The announcement explained that the Caliph of the Islamic State, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, ordered the minting of gold, silver and copper coins in order to stop using the “financial systems of the tyrants”, a suggestion that was approved by the organization’s Shura Council. The announcement reviewed several coins of different values, each with its own design and writing.<sup>58</sup>



**The IS announces the minting of gold, silver and copper coins**

- The jihadist media institution of the Islamic State, Al-Hayat, published a video titled, “A Message from Our Brother, Abu Muhammad al-Rusi”. In the video, which included subtitles in Arabic and English, an IS activist in Syria sent several messages to Russian-speaking Muslims. Among other things, al-Rusi rejected the description of members of the IS as Kharijites and claimed that every “takfir” (accusation of heresy) made by the organization was done within the framework of the Salafist methodology. He then went on to justify the execution of captives since the Prophet had done the same and he attacked the religious clerics who criticized the IS. Al-Rusi ended the video with a prayer for the prisoners being held in the tyrants’ jails and a call on Muslims in “infidel countries” to perform hijra as soon as possible and join the IS.<sup>59</sup>

<sup>58</sup> [https://ia802609.us.archive.org/21/items/bayan\\_201411/bayan.pdf](https://ia802609.us.archive.org/21/items/bayan_201411/bayan.pdf) (Arabic).

<sup>59</sup> <https://akhbardawlatislam.wordpress.com/2014/11/03/مركز-الحياة-الاصدار-المرئي-رسالة-من-ا/> (Arabic).



### A message from the IS to Russian-speaking Muslims

- The IS began to publish daily news briefs that were transmitted on the Al-Bayan radio station, which belongs to the organization. Among the reports: operations that were carried out by the organization in Iraq and Syria, the killing of Iraqi security forces commanders, damage to military vehicles and the execution of suicide attacks.<sup>60</sup>
- The management of the Al-Minbar Al-Alami Al-Jihadi Web forum, which is affiliated with the IS, reported the death of two of its forum administrators who fought among the ranks of the IS. The two, who were known by their nicknames on the forum, Aswad Bin Laden and Al-Sarem al-Battar, were killed in an attack by the Crusader alliance in Kirkuk Province.<sup>61</sup>

### *The Islamic State - Baghdad*

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Baghdad published the following:
  - The fourth video in a series titled, “This is My Last Will and Testament”, which documented the last will and testament of an activist known as Abu Aisha al-Jazrawi. With his face blurred, al-Jazrawi criticized the Saudi regime, which he called “more damaging to the Muslim Nation than the Shi’ites, the Jews and the Christians”. According to the video, al-Jazrawi detonated himself in a car bombing targeting Iraqi military forces in Sadr City, killing and injuring dozens.<sup>62</sup>

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

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

<sup>62</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oTgSzXcVd8w> (Arabic).

- A claim of responsibility for a suicide attack that was carried out by a member of the organization known as Abu Abdullah al-Hulandi against police forces in Baghdad. According to the announcement, the operation killed two commanders and twenty police officers, and injured ten others.<sup>63</sup>

### ***The Islamic State – Saladin Province***

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Saladin Province published the following:
  - A claim of responsibility for a suicide attack that was carried out by a member of the organization named Abu Jihad al-Irhabi al-Shami against the operational command headquarters of the Iraqi security forces in Tikrit University. According to the report, the terrorist managed to penetrate three gates driving a truck laden with explosive materials, which he detonated at the entrance to the headquarters building. The operation also included the launch of four mortar bombs at search and rescue forces that arrived at the scene.<sup>64</sup>
  - A claim of responsibility for an attack that was carried out south of Tikrit against a group of Shi'ite Iraqi soldiers. After blowing up the building where the forces were entrenched using a truck bomb laden with four tons of explosives, the operation continued with mortar bomb fire directed at forces that arrived to evacuate the dead and injured. During the battle, which took place on November 11, 2014, 20 enemy soldiers were killed and IS forces managed to completely take over control of the area.<sup>65</sup>

### ***The Islamic State - Nineveh Province***

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Nineveh Province published the following:
  - A video review titled, "The Start of the New Academic Year in the Islamic Caliphate", which showed schools and universities full of students in order to demonstrate that studies were carrying on in the province despite Western attacks.<sup>66</sup>

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<sup>63</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>64</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>65</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>66</sup> <https://alplatformmedia.com/vb>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhoC5Veeyzg> (both in Arabic)



The video banner

- A claim of responsibility for a suicide attack against Peshmerga and PKK forces in the Rabia region by a member of the organization named Abu Musab al-Turki.<sup>67</sup>



Abu Musab al-Turki

### ***The Islamic State – Diyala Province***

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Diyala Province published photos of its operations in the province, the destruction of houses that were used by the Iraqi army, and the execution of soldiers from the Kurdish Peshmerga militia, under the title, “Photos from the Land of Jihad – Part 2”.<sup>68</sup>



The publication banner

<sup>67</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>68</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

### ***The Islamic State – Fallujah Province***

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Fallujah Province published the following:
  - A short video documenting the process of preparing a Fath rocket. The video showed how to manufacture the pipe using a lathe, and how to assemble the warhead and fuse it on to the rocket.<sup>69</sup>



**Documentation of the process of manufacturing a “Fath” rocket in Fallujah**

### **Al-Sham [The Levant]**

*According to a report by the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR), over 869 people have been killed in coalition strikes since they began in mid-September, including 746 IS fighters, 68 Al-Nusra Front fighters and 50 civilians.<sup>70</sup>*

*Opposition to the IS has not only come from the West. Media sources reported Iran’s intent to unite the Shi’ite militias fighting in Syria (Iraqis and Afghanis together) in order to create an organized army to operate alongside the official army of the Syrian regime.<sup>71</sup>*

*Criticism of the IS also came from the Muslim Brotherhood in Syria. Muhammad Hikmat Waleed, the new Comptroller-General of the Muslim Brotherhood in Syria, spoke out against the*

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<sup>69</sup> <http://theshamnews.com/?p=339> (Arabic).

<sup>70</sup> <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/syria-activist-group-us-led-airstrikes-isis-kill-more-than-860-people> (English).

<sup>71</sup> <http://www.elaph.com/Web/News/2014/11/955560.html> (Arabic).

organization and claimed that there was no difference between the IS and the Syrian regime as any military operation not directed against the regime does not serve the Syrian revolution.<sup>72</sup>

Meanwhile, the Syrian regime continued to operate on two fronts: the battle against the IS, which registered certain achievements such as the renewed takeover of two gas fields in Homs,<sup>73</sup> and the bombing of areas under the control of opposition forces.<sup>74</sup>

## Syria

### **The Al-Nusra Front in Syria**

- The jihadist media institution of the Al-Nusra Front in Syria, Al-Manarah al-Bayda, published an audio clip containing an interview with Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Julani, the leader of the Al-Nusra Front. According to al-Julani, the Al-Sham arena is currently being forced to cope with several challenges:
  - A focused effort by the international coalition and its allies in the region and in Al-Sham in their fight against the mujahideen. According to him, international forces are displaying high sensitivity in the area for several reasons, including the desire to defend Israel's security, concern that Al-Sham territory will be used to carry out attacks against European countries, and a desire to preserve the control of Assad and the Alawite group over Syria since they are allies of the same coalition forces. For these reasons a great effort has been invested, which is evident in the flow of large sums of money, and in the training and arming of warrior factions in order to help the Americans and the West kill members of the IS and the Al-Nusra Front.
  - Internal division stemming from disagreements about the path between Sunni groups, some of which receive external support. According to al-Julani, the Syrian regime also receives external support, such as from Iran, Russia, China and Shi'ite militias, support

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<sup>72</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.net/news/arabic/2014/11/10/%D8%A5%D8%AE%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%B3%D9%88%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D9%84%D8%A7-%D9%81%D8%B1%D9%82-%D8%A8%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%86%D8%B8%D8%A7%D9%85-%D9%88%D8%AA%D9%86%D8%B8%D9%8A%D9%85-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AF%D9%88%D9%84%D8%A9> (Arabic).

<sup>73</sup> <http://www.alhurra.com/content/syria-coalition-isis/261017.html> (Arabic).

<sup>74</sup> <http://www.al-madina.com/node/567696?live> (Arabic).

that is expressed in various ways, including military advice, logistical support, etc.

Al-Julani concluded that most of the world agrees that efforts should be focused on eradicating jihad from the Al-Sham arena. He emphasized that the sensitivity in the area has done wonders since the mujahideen have been able to reach the border with Israel, which worries Israel and prevents forces in the region from protecting its security.

Al-Julani then referred to the organization's military successes in Syria and noted the areas that it had liberated, including Quneitra, from the Syrian regime. He noted that his organization intends to move the battle to inside Lebanon, especially to the south, including Dahiya where there is a concentration of Hezbollah fighters due to the latter's involvement in the war in Syria and its support for Assad. Al-Julani explained that the Al-Nusra Front seeks to protect Sunni residents via the Al-Qalamoun battle, led by Sheikh Abu Malik al-Shami. According to him, operations in Al-Qalamoun had great positive results. For example, he noted that the organization succeeded in exposing the hypocrisy of the Lebanese army and its function as a tool of Hezbollah. It also exposed Hezbollah's great hostility and aggression towards Sunnis in Lebanon, including in Tripoli and in refugee camps. Nevertheless, al-Julani explained that the true battle in Lebanon has not yet begun and that the Secretary-General of Hezbollah, Hassan Nasrallah, will soon regret his actions against the Sunnis.

Al-Julani referred to other areas of battle in Syria as well. For example, he acknowledged that in Homs, Syrian security forces showed the upper hand following their massacre of residents. He noted that the organization saw its greatest achievements in Hama with the liberation of the city of Khan Shaykhun as well as some roadblocks. He noted the presence of the organization's fighters in Aleppo who had carried out several heroic operations in cooperation with other jihad factions against regime forces. He added that his organization is trying to take control over other areas in the region. In Al-Sharqiyya, according to him, members of the organization were forced to evacuate to other areas due to fighting with members of the IS. In Idlib, members of the organization managed to break into the province's structure.

Al-Julani then referred to the battle that took place between members of his organization and several other jihad factions in Jabl al-Zawiyya. He explained that the

decision to turn their weapons against other jihad factions was merely an act of self-defence. In addition, he referred contemptuously to the cynical exploitation of various jihad factions by the West for its own purposes. Al-Julani also referred to the factions that caused the Al-Nusra Front to leave the common field courts of other jihad factions. According to him, his organization saw fit to establish judicial institutions in the territory under its authority after it realized that the common courts were deviating from shari'a. He noted: "We established courts in places where we have a wide influence and near complete control in these areas in order to avoid clashes between us and legal institutions. According to him, these courts were created to reconcile and resolve disputes based on shari'a.

Finally, al-Julani referred to foreign fighters, whom he called "immigrants", who help in the organization's war effort. He estimated that the number of immigrants is close to 30%-35% of all of the organization's fighters. He added that his organization calls on Muslims to immigrate only to Al-Sham and he promised to take care of them and ensure their safety.<sup>75</sup>



The interview banner

- During the first half of November 2014, the Al-Nusra Front published the following:
  - A report on the progress of negotiations between the organization and the Lebanese government, through Qatari mediation, to deal with the release of Lebanese soldiers being held prisoner by the organization. According to the report, the Al-Nusra Front was presented with three different offers: (1) the release of ten prisoners from Lebanese prison in exchange for each captive; (2) the release of seven prisoners from Lebanese

<sup>75</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

prison and 30 female prisoners from Syrian prison in exchange for each captive; (3) the release of five prisoners from Lebanese prison and 50 female prisoners from Syrian prison in exchange for each captive. Should one of the offers be accepted, the prisoners would be transferred to Turkey or Qatar and released from there.<sup>76</sup>

- A statement addressed to members of the Free Syrian Army, the battalions fighting near southern Rif Idlib and northern Rif Hama, and all Muslims wherever they may be. In the statement, the Al-Nusra Front clarified that it is interested in ending the fighting in Mount Al-Zawiya and expressed its willingness to solve the disagreements through a shari'a court. The Al-Nusra Front promised to meet all the demands of the shari'a court and obey the judge's decision, and it called on other organizations involved in the fighting to do the same and bring to an end the disagreements and prisoner exchanges.<sup>77</sup>
- A filmed review of the opening of the "Dawah and Guidance Office" in the city of Darkush. During the opening event, informational packets and sweets were distributed to the public and videos of the Al-Nusra Front's dawah activities were screened.<sup>78</sup>
- A series of photos documenting the liberation of the city of Shaykh Maskin in southeast Syria from Syrian security forces.<sup>79</sup>
- A visitor to the Al-Fidaa jihadist Web forum published the content of an interview conducted by the Saudi-owned Orbit Satellite station with Sheikh Muhammad al-Mohaisany, a Saudi religious sage fighting alongside Salafi-jihadist rebels. In the interview, he emphasized the importance of toppling the Syrian regime and described the war waged by coalition forces in Syria and Iraq as a war against Islam and Muslims. According to him, efforts to reconcile the Al-Nusra Front with the Syria Revolutionaries Front ("Jabhat Thowar Suriyya") were unsuccessful. He emphasized that, in contrast to the outlook of the IS, the Al-Nusra Front does not view armed factions such as 'The Syrian Islamic Liberation Front' as infidels. In addition, al-Mohaisany harshly criticized members of the IS and noted that their militant approach to other armed factions serves the

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

<sup>77</sup> <http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>78</sup> <http://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>79</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

enemy. In light of this, al-Mohaisany warned Muslims not to join the IS due to its haste in accusing Muslims of heresy (takfir).<sup>80</sup>



**Al-Mohaisany during the interview**

- An unknown jihadist media institution called Al-Safinat published a video of a sermon given by Sheikh Abdullah al-Mohaisany, a Saudi religious sage fighting alongside the Salafi-jihadist rebels titled, “The Arab Pilot”, in which he criticized the air strike against Syrian and Iraqi residents. In the sermon, al-Mohaisany lamented the death of Muslim children as a result of the coalition’s aerial bombardment. According to him, he coalition is waging a war against Islam and not against terrorism and, therefore, he insisted that the pilots from the various Arab countries participating in the coalition, such as Bahrain and Jordan, come to their senses and put an end to it.<sup>81</sup>



**The banner of the sermon, “The Arab Pilot”**

### ***The Islamic State – Al-Raqqah Province***

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<sup>80</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>81</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Al-Raqqah Province published the following:
  - A video documenting the execution of three Syrian army soldiers. The video, which included English subtitles, showed three Alawite soldiers who, according to the announcer, had killed dozens of Sunni Muslims. In an unusual move and in order to take revenge for their brothers in the Idlib refugee camps and the villages of Homs, the announcer permitted the crowd to beat the three soldiers to death and then tie their bodies to motorcycles and display them throughout the city for all to see.<sup>82</sup>



**The execution of three Alawite soldiers who were beaten to death by the crowd**

- A video titled, “A Message to the Peshmerga Forces”, which included threats against members of the PKK, the Peshmerga and coalition forces by a group of activists in the province.<sup>83</sup>
- A report documenting the battle in ‘Ayn al-Islam (Kobane) between members of the IS and Kurdish fighters.



**The report banner**

<sup>82</sup> <https://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>83</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

- Documentation of the distribution of pamphlets to residents of the province in honor of the Day of Ashura, which marks the murder of Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad, and is considered in Shi'ite Islam to be a day of mourning.<sup>84</sup>



**The distribution of pamphlets in honor of the Day of Ashura**

### ***The Islamic State – Aleppo Province***

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Aleppo Province published the following:
  - A video titled, “An Oath of Allegiance by 300 Kurdish Villages in the Northern Countryside of Aleppo” to the IS. The video showed an oath of allegiance taken in a mosque by dozens to hundreds of people after which interviews were held with Kurdish residents who expressed their apparent satisfaction with the IS rule.<sup>85</sup>



**An oath of allegiance to the IS by Kurds in Aleppo Province**

### ***The Islamic State – Al-Khayr Province***

- The media wing of the Islamic State in Al-Khayr Province published the following:

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

<sup>85</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

- A video regarding the opening of an “Information Point” in the city of Al-Mayadeen. The video indicated that it was a stand equipped with a screen that projected the organization’s propaganda videos and also served as a place for distributing informational pamphlets for the organization.<sup>86</sup>



**The stand for distributing IS propaganda in the city of Al-Mayadeen**

### ***Other jihadist organizations***

- The Ansar al-Din Front, an Islamic umbrella organization operating in Syria and composed of three jihadist groups (Fajr al-Sham, Jaysh al-Muhajireen wal-Ansar, Sham al-Islam Movement), published a video titled, “Protectors of the Nation”. The video included interviews with several residents in Aleppo who testified as to the good treatment that they received from members of the Front who protected them from attacks by the Alawite regime.<sup>87</sup>



**Members of the Ansar al-Din Front embracing the local population in Aleppo**

- The Al-Quqaz jihadist media institution published a video containing a message from Salahuddin al-Shishani, the commander of Jaysh al-Muhajireen wal-Ansar (Army of Emigrants and Supporters), an organization operating in Syria and composed mainly of Chechen jihad fighters,

<sup>86</sup> <https://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>87</sup> <http://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

regarding his visit to Raqqa on November 6, 2014. Al-Shishani stated that he was sent to Raqqa by the Al-Nusra Front and the Islamic Front in order to meet with representatives from the IS in an attempt to end the bloodshed between the organizations. According to al-Shishani, members of the IS refused his offer, claiming that members of the Al-Nusra Front and the Islamic Front were considered infidels with whom deals may not be made. Finally, al-Shishani denied rumors that he had sworn allegiance to the IS and he emphasized that he only swore allegiance to the Emirs of the Caucasus Emirate, Dokka Umarov and Ali Abu Muhammad.<sup>88</sup>



**Salahuddin al-Shishani reporting on the Islamic State's refusal of a ceasefire offer**

- A jihadist news agency known as Jihad News published a video documenting the destruction of the of Holy Saints' Shrines around northern Aleppo.<sup>89</sup>
- Ahrar al-Sham, one of the jihadist organizations fighting in Syria against the regime, published a statement regarding the fighting in Mount Al-Zawiya. The announcement stated that, in the shadow of the fighting taking place in the area there was a recent air strike likely carried out by the international alliance, which damaged the headquarters of the organization but mostly hurt innocent women and children. Ahrar al-Sham explained that internal fighting among Muslims does not justify appeasement and escape to the lap of the international enemy; the organization's participation in the fighting in Mount Al-Zawiya is the natural response to the hostile acts committed against it by other Islamic organizations. Ahrar al-Sham emphasized that its main goal is to direct its weapons only against the infidel Syrian regime.<sup>90</sup>

## The Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip

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<sup>88</sup> <http://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>89</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>90</sup> <http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

*A prominent development in the Sinai arena was the strengthened connection between the local mujahideen and the IS, which culminated in a formal oath of allegiance. On November 4, 2014 Abu Musab al-Maqqdisi, a senior spokesman for the IS, called on the mujahideen in Sinai to expand their operations and turn Sinai into a jihad base. In the announcement, which was specifically directed at Ansar Bayt al-Maqqdis, which operates in Sinai, al-Maqqdisi also called for attacks in Gaza.<sup>91</sup>*

*On November 10, 2014 Ansar Bayt al-Maqqdis formally announced that it had sworn allegiance to the IS. The announcement was published in a video and came after the organization had expressed support several times for the IS. Now, leaders of the organization formally swore allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of the IS, and even changed its name to Wilayat Sinai, as this is how the IS tends to name the areas under its control in Iraq and Syria.<sup>92 93</sup>*

*On November 13, 2014 two shooting attacks took place in northern Sinai and led to the death of five soldiers. The two attacks were similar in nature: a sniper fired on a military convoy, once in the city of Rafah and once in the city of Sheikh Zuweid. Egyptian security forces widely combed the area in search of the assassins but were unsuccessful.<sup>94</sup>*

- The Gaza jihadist organization, Liwaa al-Tawheed, announced the establishment of a media institution called Al-Buraq, to be used to send out the organization's messages.<sup>95</sup> The organization's first publication was a video titled, "Flash of Swords", which reviewed the activities of Liwaa al-Tawheed during Operation "Protective Edge". The approximately 50-minute video included an interview with a field commander known as Abu Anas, who led a fighting unit against IDF tanks and armored vehicles. Among other things, Abu Anas referred to the anti-tank missiles used by the unit, including the MILAN. The video also showed interviews with commanders from other units, video footage from the training of operatives, and the

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<sup>91</sup><http://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/middle-east/49856-141105-is-calls-on-fighters-to-attack-gaza-weapons-convoys-in-sinai>

<sup>92</sup><http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2014/11/egypt-armed-group-pledges-allegiance-isis-2014111062135628610.html> (English).

<sup>93</sup><http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/11/world/middleeast/egyptian-militant-group-pledges-loyalty-to-isis.html> (English).

<sup>94</sup><http://www.tnegypt.com/terrorist-attacks-kill-five-army-and-police-conscripts-in-north-sinai/> (English).

<sup>95</sup><http://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

remains of IDF equipment at sites where the organization claimed to have attacked.<sup>96</sup>



**A photo showing a weapon and its methods of use; Liwaa al-Tawheed in Gaza**

- A group calling itself Al-Shabab al-Salafi al-Mujahid published an announcement clarifying the explosions that took place in Gaza on the night of November 6. In the framework of the announcement, members of the group denied any connection to the explosions and emphasized that their weapons were aimed solely at the Jews. In addition, the announcement mentioned that some members of the group had previously been killed in an explosion at the home of the Dahlan family in Khan Yunis, despite the fact that there turned out to be no connection between the incident and the members of the Salafi-jihadist movement.<sup>97</sup>

#### ***The Islamic State in Sinai Province (formerly Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis)***

- Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, which operates in the Sinai Peninsula, published a statement calling on Bedouin tribes to oppose the Egyptian regime until it is toppled due to its oppressive policies towards Muslims in the Sinai Peninsula and the protection that it offers to the Jews, which it demonstrated through the tightening of the blockade on the Gaza Strip and the reinforcement of its troops on the border with Israel.<sup>98</sup>
- On November 4, 2014 it was reported that Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis had sworn allegiance to the IS. Several days later, another report was published, seemingly by the organization, denying the above report and denying that it had taken an oath of allegiance to the IS. However, in the end a formal announcement was published in which the organization admitted that it had sworn

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<sup>96</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

<sup>97</sup> <http://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>98</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

allegiance to the IS and changed its name to “Sinai Province”, as the IS tends to name its affiliates in various areas.<sup>99</sup>

- The Islamic State’s affiliate in Sinai Province (formerly known as Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis) published a video titled, “Assault of the Supporters”, which documented attacks that were carried out against Egyptian army soldiers. Among the operations: shooting attacks against Egyptian army forces, mortar fire directed at military camps, and the explosion of a gas line between Egypt and Jordan. The video also included the last will and testament of an activist who threatened Abdel Fatah al-Sisi, the President of Egypt, before he carried out a suicide attack using a car bomb at a military outpost in Karam al-Qawadis in northern Sinai, in which 30 Egyptian soldiers were killed.<sup>100</sup> The video ended by showing the weapons and ammunition that members of the organization had plundered, as well as the words spoken by a fighter with his face blurred who referred to al-Sisi as “the Pharaoh of Egypt” and threatened that the war against the regime and the army had only just begun.



The video banner

### ***Other jihadist organizations***

- A new Internet campaign was launched under the titled, “Nafir Al-Aqsa” (literally: “A Call to Jihad in Al-Aqsa”), designed to train mujahideen to fight in Jerusalem. The campaign called on all Muslims, wherever they may be, to support jihad near Jerusalem as the strongest form of support for Islam and jihad. The campaign was organized, among other ways, through the Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/Nafeeraq>.<sup>101</sup>

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<sup>99</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb>; [http://manbar.me/bayat\\_translation](http://manbar.me/bayat_translation) (both in Arabic)

<sup>100</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb>; <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (both in Arabic); <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-10-24/sinai-car-bomb-kills-26-egyptian-soldiers-official-says.html>

<sup>101</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).



The logo of the campaign

- During the first half of November 2014, the Ibn Taymia jihadist media institution, which focuses on the Salafi-jihadist movement in the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula, published the following:
  - An announcement titled, “Clarification Regarding the Explosions that Took Place at the Fatah Headquarters”. The announcement was published against the backdrop of a series of attacks that took place on November 17, 2014 against several leaders of the Fatah movement in the Gaza Strip, after which several statements were released in which the IS claimed responsibility for the incident. In this context, the Ibn Taymia institution explained that there is no group operating in the Gaza Strip under the name “the Islamic State”. According to him, the IS publishes its statements and announcement via its official media institution. In addition, the Ibn Taymia institution denied that Salafist groups in Gaza were responsible for the explosions and the published announcements, and stated that the media seems to want to blame the jihadist groups for the incident.<sup>102</sup>
  - An announcement warning Palestinian Salafi-jihadist activists not to use social networks as a fundraising tool due to the serious concern of Western intelligence agencies revealing their identity. The announcement was published against the backdrop of the creation of an online fundraising campaign on social networks on November 16, 2014 titled, “Help the Mujahideen of Gaza”, which was attributed to the Palestinian Al-Nasser Salah al-Deen Brigades - Liwa' Al-Tawhid Battalions in the Gaza Strip. According to the Ibn Taymia media institution, the campaign itself was an individual initiative that

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<sup>102</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

was not coordinated with Palestinian Salafist-jihadist groups. It also explained that the nature of the campaign did not characterize the Salafist groups in Gaza and it recommended avoiding exposing personal details on social networks due to security concerns for the users.<sup>103</sup>



The banner showing a fundraising campaign titled, “Help the Mujahideen of Gaza”

- A group of Bedouin tribes in northern Sinai announced the establishment of a new organization named “Sons of Sinai”, an armed battalion designed to serve as an alternative to the jihadist group, Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, which operates in Sinai. According to members of the Sons of Sinai, Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis’s actions constitute terrorist acts and should be opposed.<sup>104</sup>

### The Maghreb [North Africa]

*The situation in Libya continued to be tense. Fajr Libya (“Libya Dawn”) forces warned countries in the region not to intervene in Libya’s internal affairs. In a statement by the spokesman of the organization, he stated that any intervention would have disastrous consequences that would*

<sup>103</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>104</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

cause the entire region to become mired in conflict.<sup>105</sup> At the same time, rebels in Benghazi warned that they would declare the establishment of an independent state in eastern Libya should the competing Parliament in Tripoli gain international recognition.<sup>106</sup> In the context of the war on terror in the country, the UN began the process of labeling Ansar al-Sharia a terrorist organization<sup>107</sup> and the army continued to battle against Islamist fighters in the area of Derna.<sup>108</sup>

There were increased efforts in Tunisia in the framework of the war on terror. In a meeting between the Tunisian Interior Minister and his French counterpart, it was decided to strengthen cooperation between the two countries in battling terrorism and organized crime.<sup>109</sup> This announcement was made against the backdrop of a shooting attack on a bus carrying soldiers and military personnel in northwest Tunisia, which killed four soldiers and injured 11 others.<sup>110</sup> Following the incident, Tunisian security forces arrested a person suspected of involvement in the attack and of membership in the Uqba ibn Nafi Brigade.<sup>111</sup>

Algeria also operated at the international level in order to cope with the terrorism threat, as indicated by the declarations from meetings with representatives from China<sup>112</sup> and Russia.<sup>113</sup> In

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<sup>105</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.net/news/arabic/2014/11/10/-%D9%81%D8%AC%D8%B1-%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D8%AA%D8%AD%D8%B0%D8%B1-%D9%85%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%AF%D8%AE%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D9%82%D9%84%D9%8A%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A> (Arabic).

<sup>106</sup> [http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/11/141107\\_libya\\_east\\_rebels\\_independence](http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/11/141107_libya_east_rebels_independence) (Arabic).

<sup>107</sup> [http://magharebia.com/en\\_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/11/10/feature-02](http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/11/10/feature-02) (English).

<sup>108</sup> [http://magharebia.com/en\\_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/11/11/feature-03](http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/11/11/feature-03) (English).

<sup>109</sup> <http://www.elyaomnews.com/2014/11/11/arab-news/1105.html>

<sup>110</sup> <http://www.alriyadh.com/991764> (Arabic).

<sup>111</sup> <http://www.arrakmia.com/%D8%AA%D9%88%D9%86%D8%B3-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%82%D8%A8%D8%B6-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%A8%D9%8A-%D8%AE%D8%B7%D9%8A%D8%B1-%D9%8A%D8%B4%D8%AA%D8%A8%D9%87-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D8%AA%D9%88/17347> (Arabic).

<sup>112</sup>

<http://www.youm7.com/story/2014/11/3/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D8%B2%D8%A7%D8%A6%D8%B1-%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B5%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%AA%D8%A4%D9%83%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%B6%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%B1%D8%A9-%D9%85%D9%83%D8%A7%D9%81%D8%AD%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%A8/1934137#.VKUbGiuUeVM>

<sup>113</sup> <http://alhayat.com/Articles/5704475/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D8%B2%D8%A7%D8%A6%D8%B1-%D8%AA%D9%86%D8%B3%D9%91%D9%82-%D9%85%D8%B9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%B3-%D8%AD%D9%88%D9%84-%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D9%88%D8%AA%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%A8%D8%B9%D8%AF-->

terms of its domestic strategy, Algeria was focused on securing its borders <sup>114</sup> - especially its border with Libya – and dismantling terrorist networks.<sup>115</sup>

## Egypt

- Sheikh Abu Musab al-Maqdisi, a senior member of the IS, published a collection of tips for the mujahideen in Egypt. Al-Maqdisi claimed that the war against the infidels should be moved to Cairo and other large cities, such that Sinai will serve as the base from which they go out to war. They should attack government targets and offices, and accept immigrants who come to wage jihad in the country. In addition, they should attack infidel groups like the Christians.<sup>116</sup>



The banner of the collection of tips for mujahideen in Egypt

- A group in Egypt known as the Salafi Front announced a planned uprising by “Muslim Youth” on November 28 with the goal of toppling the “military rule” that it accused of stealing the nation’s money and harassing women. The statement presented the uprising as “a battle of identity” aimed at starting an Islamic revolution to implement shari’a by discarding any secular

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[http://magharebia.com/en\\_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/11/11/feature-02](http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/11/11/feature-02) (Arabic).

<sup>114</sup> <http://www.lemaghreb.tn/%D8%B4%D8%A4%D9%88%D9%86-%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D9%88-%D8%AF%D9%88%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A9/%D8%B4%D8%A4%D9%88%D9%86-%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A9/14881-%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA%D9%8A%D8%AC%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D8%B2%D8%A7%D8%A6%D8%B1-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D9%85%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%AC%D9%87%D8%A9-%D8%AA%D9%85%D8%AF%D8%AF-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AF%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%B4-%D8%A3%D9%88%D9%84%D9%88%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%AA%D8%A3%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AD%D8%AF%D9%88%D8%AF-%D9%88%D8%AA%D9%81%D9%83%D9%8A%D9%83-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B4%D8%A8%D9%83%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AC%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%A9> (English).

<sup>115</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

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

<sup>116</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

characteristics, such as a constitution, Parliament or government ministries.<sup>117</sup>

## Nigeria

*Boko Haram continued to carry out terrorist acts against the civilian population in Nigeria during the first half of November. One of the operations that it carried out was a suicide attack at a school in northeast Nigeria, which killed 47 people and injured 79 others, including students.<sup>118</sup> In addition, the organization managed to take control of three towns in northeast Nigeria, including the town of Chibok, from where 200 Christian girls were kidnapped in April 2014, and announced that these towns would be included in the territory of the organization's caliphate.<sup>119</sup>*

## Somalia

*The battered Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen, which had recently remained quiet while it picked up the pieces following the killing of its leader, Godane, resumed significant terrorist attacks throughout Somalia.*

*On November 10, 2014 at least 50 people were killed and over 40 others were injured when Al-Shabab fighters captured the city of Kudha in southern Somalia, near the border with Kenya. City officials confirmed that Al-Shabab had carried out a heavy assault on the city, which lasted approximately four hours, and managed to seize control of the city.<sup>120</sup> Two days later, on November 12, 2014, Mahmoud Abdi Addow Dhabarey, Somalia's Deputy Director of Immigration, was killed in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, when snipers fired on his car. Al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack a short while after it was carried out.<sup>121</sup>*

*Meanwhile, the United States expressed its lack of satisfaction with the functioning of Somalia's leaders and threatened to cut its financial support to the country if the situation continues. The US expressed frustration with the fact that the President and the Prime Minister of*

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<sup>117</sup> <https://al3aren.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>118</sup> <http://www.aljazeera.net/news/international/2014/11/10/عشرات-القتلى-بتفجير-مدرسة-في-نيجيريا>

<sup>119</sup> <http://www.cnn.com/2014/11/14/world/africa/boko-haram-seize-towns-nigeria/> (English).

<sup>120</sup> <http://www.hiiraan.com/news4/2014/Nov/67012/scores-killed-as-al-shabab-captures-town-in-somali-a.aspx#sthash.GWEZO7v2.Nyt6HUjN.dpbs> (English).

<sup>121</sup> <http://www.hiiraan.com/news4/2014/Nov/67031/somali-official-killed-in-mogadishu-al-shabaab-claims-responsibility.aspx#sthash.2TCa2slg.Ck2mG8bx.dpbs> (English).

the country were unable to work together.<sup>122</sup>

## The Indian Subcontinent

- The Al-Sahab jihadist media institution published a propaganda video criticizing the Pakistani regime titled, “A Message to the Pakistani Nation and to Our Brothers Fighting There. Now the Time Has Come to Fight” by Ahmad al-Faruq, the head of Al-Qaeda’s branch in the Indian subcontinent. Al-Faruq accused the Pakistani regime of the systematic persecution of Pakistani religious sages who serve as role models for many. For example, he mentioned the death of two Pakistani religious sages - Naseeb Khan who was kidnapped from his home in North Waziristan and murdered, and Aslam Sheikhpuri who was shot to death in Karachi. According to him, this policy is unacceptable, and proves that the regime does not respect Islam and prefers to perpetuate secularism. He also accused the Pakistani regime of collaborating with the United States to harm Muslims. According to him, jihad is the only guaranteed way to change the existing situation and restoring Islam’s former glory – to revive the golden age of Islam. For this reason, the Pakistani regime must be opposed.<sup>123</sup>



The video banner

## Iran

- The Al-Farooq jihadist media institution of Ansar Iran, a Salafi-jihadist organization in Balochistan, published a series of photos from a training camp that it claimed was located in Iran.<sup>124</sup>

<sup>122</sup> [http://www.hiiraan.com/news4/2014/Nov/67065/us\\_frustrated\\_with\\_somali\\_leaders\\_threatens\\_to\\_cut\\_funding.aspx#sthash.qfilbWgn.zykuFMhk.dpbs](http://www.hiiraan.com/news4/2014/Nov/67065/us_frustrated_with_somali_leaders_threatens_to_cut_funding.aspx#sthash.qfilbWgn.zykuFMhk.dpbs) (English).

<sup>123</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

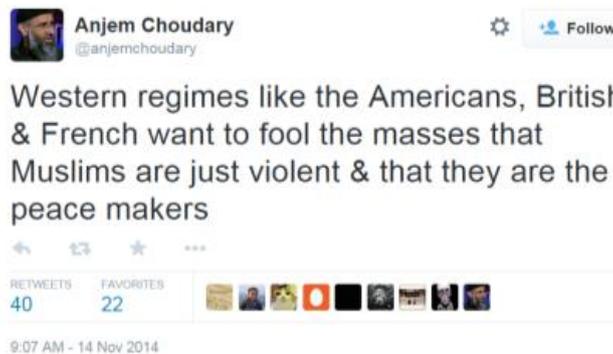
<sup>124</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).



Photos from a training camp

## The West

- Sheikh Anjem Choudary, a radical Islamic preacher in England, continued to publish controversial correspondence on his Twitter account. During the first half of November 2014, Choudary posted several tweets (see examples below) in which he expressed support for the IS and looked forward to its victory over coalition forces. In addition, he praised shari'a as an exclusive source of legislation that guarantees equal rights to all persons.<sup>125</sup>



A tweet posted to Anjem Choudary's Twitter account

## Miscellaneous

- A prominent visitor to the Al-Minbar Al-Alami Al-Jihadi Web forum, which is affiliated with the IS, published a link to a report from news sites that revealed the identity of the American soldier

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<sup>125</sup> <https://twitter.com/anjemchoudary>

who killed Osama bin Laden. Members of the forum cursed him and demanded his capture, dead or alive, in order to take revenge.<sup>126</sup>

- A new jihadist media institution named Al-Ma'aly was established. According to the statement announcing the establishment of the institution, the power of the media is being misused to spread lies and, therefore, a new media institution was established in order to publish the truth. The statement did not mention which organization the media institution was affiliated with and it did not express support for one organization over another, but the announcement was published supportively on the Al-Jihad Al-Alami Web forum, which is affiliated with the Al-Nusra Front.<sup>127</sup> The new media institution's Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/almaaly1436>.

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<sup>126</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

<sup>127</sup> <http://shabakataljihad.com/vb> (Arabic).

## ABOUT THE ICT

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

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