



ICT Jihadi Monitoring Group

PERIODIC REVIEW

Bimonthly Report

Summary of Information on Jihadist Websites

The Second Half of June 2015

Highlights

This report summarizes notable events discussed on jihadist Web forums during the second half of June 2015. Following are the main points covered in the report:

- **Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula** officially announces the death of **Abu Basir al-Wuhayshi**, leader of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), and eulogizes him. Various jihadist organizations identifying with Al-Qaeda praise his contribution to the war efforts against enemy forces, and promise to avenge his death. In his stead, the organization appoints **Qasim al-Rimi** as the leader of the organization.
- **Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Adnani**, official spokesman for the **Islamic State**, emphasizes the importance of the deaths of martyrs, and the value of their self-sacrifice for God during the month of Ramadan, and calls upon Muslims to increase jihad activity during that month against apostates, Shi'ites, and Muslims who abandoned their faith in Iraq, Syria, and Libya. He calls upon Arabs in Jordan, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia to wage an intifada against their tyrannical rulers, and threatens to take revenge against the United States for its attacks on Iraq and Syria. In addition, al-Adnani calls upon all the jihadist factions in Libya, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria to stop battling Islamic State fighters.
- The **Islamic State** takes responsibility for a shooting attack carried out by a fighter named Abu Yahya al-Qayrawani on tourists at the beach and in the hotel compound in the Sousse vacation city. Thirty-eight people were killed in the attack, and dozens more were injured. In the statement claiming responsibility, the Islamic State justifies its attack on tourists, since they were citizens of countries in the coalition attacking the Islamic State.
- The deputy leader of **Afghan Taliban**, **Akhtar Mohammad Mansour**, calls upon the leader of the Islamic State, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, and his trusted allies, to fight under the protection of the Afghan Taliban, and to end the division between jihadist fighters. In addition, he warns al-Baghdadi not to create new jihadist groups under the auspices of the Islamic State inside Afghanistan, claiming that such a move would harm the jihad efforts and lead to further

division. Furthermore, Mansour threatens that all interference by the Islamic State in the matters of the Afghan Taliban would infuriate the Muslims against the organization, and the Taliban would be forced to react to such activities.

- **Uthman Ghazi**, leader of the **Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan**, publically criticizes the leader of the **Afghan Taliban Movement, Mulla Umar**, and expresses his dissatisfaction with the way Umar was conducting himself. According to Ghazi, Mulla Umar is no longer in the best of health, and there are many signs to that effect, such as his organization's fighters' inability to conduct face-to-face meetings with Mulla Umar over the last several years. Also according to Ghazi, Umar's disappearance for so many years is considered "a form of treachery and an act of cowardice that cannot be forgiven", and this vacuum is destructive for the Muslim people.
- The **Islamic State** issues severe criticism regarding **Hamas**, due to the latter's harsh treatment of the Salafis in the Gaza Strip. The last such incident was the killing of Yunus al-Hunar, a Salafi jihadist fighter killed by Hamas security forces when he resisted arrest. A Gazan activist and member of the Islamic State ridicules Hamas and describes it as a body that sanctifies nationalism rather than the laws of Shari'a, and threatens that IS forces are advancing closer to Israel every day.
- **Al-Qaeda** publishes the second issue of the magazine *Resurgence*, dedicated to the figure **Sheikh Adam Yahya Gadhafi**, a senior leader in the organization and an American citizen, who was killed by drone fire at the beginning of 2015.

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New Publications

Ideology

- The Al-Furqan media institution, belonging to the Islamic State, published an audio recording by Sheik Abu Muhammad al-Adnani, official spokesman for the Islamic State, titled "Answer the Proclamation Calling to Allah". Al-Adnani emphasized the importance of the month of Ramadan and the value of their self-sacrifice for God during the month of Ramadan, and called upon Muslims to increase jihad activity during the month of fasting, against apostates, Shi'ites, and Muslims who abandoned their faith in Iraq, Syria, and Libya. He even called upon Arabs in Jordan, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia to wage an intifada against their tyrannical rulers. According to al-Adnani, the West was weary from its efforts to fight jihad and its growing attraction for Sunnis in Iraq – something that terrified the Jews. Instead, they sold Iraq to the Shi'ites, to Iran, and to the apostates in Iraq. In addition, he threatened US President Obama, saying that the US would be attacked in revenge for US attacks in Iraq and Syria.

Al-Adnani also called upon the mujahideen in Libya (meaning, the Shura mujahideen in Derna and its surroundings) and in Afghanistan (meaning, the Afghan Taliban), to stop fighting against the Islamic State. According to al-Adnani, the Islamic State fighters were only interested in battling Christians, Jews, and representatives of the corrupt Muslim regimes. Later, al-Adnani called upon Muslims in the Al-Anbar region in Western Iraq to lay down their weapons and stop battling Islamic State fighters – whether they were from Sunni tribes, the police, or the army, and to repent. Al-Adnani concluded that whoever pursued an agreement with the apostates became one of them.¹

- The Nukhbat al-Fikr jihadist media group published an article titled "Words about the Reality of the Groups", by Sheikh Abu Mariyya al-Qahtani, head of Al-Nusra Front's Shura Council in Syria. Sheikh Umar al-Hadushi, a Salafi jihadist sheikh in Morocco, wrote an introduction to the article. Al-Qahtani discussed the way jihadist groups operate opposite other jihadist groups, the civilian population, and members of tribes. According to al-Qahtani, there are jihadist groups that judge

¹ https://archive.org/details/yassin383_201506 (Arabic).

other Muslims as apostates, due to different reasons. For example, infiltration of apostates into leadership positions, or due to a distorted methodology of Islam.²

In a different article written by al-Qahtani titled "Opposition to Commentary and Error", he claimed that interpretation of the holy Islamic texts on the basis of human rationale is a mistake which damages the Islamic faith. According to al-Qahtani, this type of commentary leads to errors such as judging any Muslims who don't adhere to the world view of a particular jihadist group to be apostates, or justifying the participation of Islamic groups in Democratic elections which are conducted in violation of the Islamic religion.³

- The Al-Basira media institution, belonging to Al-Nusra, published an interview with Sufyan al-Muhajir, one of its members, about the virtues of the month of Ramadan, and fulfilling jihad commandments, particularly during this month.⁴
- The jihad media institution, Nukhbat al-Fikr, published short impressions and memories, as well as verses of poetry, written by Sheikh Abu Yahya al-Libi, a senior official of Al-Qaeda, who was killed by an American drone fire in 2012. The publication came out under the title "Pages from Abu Yahya al-Libi's Notebook".⁵
- The Al-Malahim media institution, operating on behalf of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian peninsula, published two videos in the framework of producing new publications, titled "Lessons about the Biography of Prophecy" by Sheikh Khalid bin Umar Bartifi, a senior official in the organization.⁶
- The Nukhbat Al-Fikr media group published a letter titled "Permissible Words of Praise and Abominable Words of Praise", by Sheikh Umar al-Hadushi, a Moroccan Salafi jihadist scholar.⁷
- The Al-Malahim media institution, operating on behalf of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian peninsula, published: a video titled "Will the Jihad continued until the End of Days?", by Sheikh Abu Basir al-Wahishit, leader of Al-Qaeda; and a video titled "The Component of Jihadist Action and the Prohibition against Spilling Muslim Blood", by Sheikh Abu Sufyan Sa'ik Ali al-Shihri, a senior

² <http://justpaste.it/lyph> (Arabic).

³ <http://justpaste.it/lype> (Arabic).

⁴ <http://justpaste.it/lvwd> (Arabic).

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

⁶ <http://justpaste.it/ltps> (Arabic).

⁷ <http://justpaste.it/lzni> (Arabic).

leader in the organization who was killed at the end of 2013.⁸ The videos were parts five and six, respectively, of a series of publications called "A series of understandings".⁹

- Husayn bin Mahmud, a prominent jihadist writer on jihad forums and on social media networks, published an article titled "General Islamic Terror". In the article, the author addresses the phenomenon of terrorism, and explains that it is the result of oppression and tyranny practiced by the ruling regimes.¹⁰

The Split between Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State

The Camp of Islamic State Opponents

- Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Maqdisi attacked a speech made by the Islamic State's official spokesman, Abu Muhammad al-Adnani, stating that only land conquered by the Islamic State could be ruled according to shari'a law. Al-Maqdisi claimed that such a statement was incorrect, since shari'a law was also instituted in places where the Taliban and other jihad groups – such as the Al-Nusra Front – ruled. He also claimed that in places where the Islamic State was in control it was not applying shari'a law correctly because it was capable of executing people due to nothing more than a difference of opinion with them. In addition, he claimed that al-Adnani was addressing his "stupid" followers in a language they could understand, in order to make it clear to them that anyone who fought against the Islamic State was replacing God's law with human law, and therefore he was an apostate and it was permitted to kill him. Al-Maqdisi also criticized al-Adnani for not differentiating between the mujahideen groups like the Al-Nusra Front, fighting for the sake of religious law, and the others – such as the Shi'ites, the Kurds, the Alawis, and the Americans.¹¹
- Abdullah bin Abdulrahman al-Shanqiti, a Salafi jihadist philosopher from Mauritania, noted the similarities between the massacre committed by Hamas in the Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah mosque, and the massacre committed by the Islamic State, comparing both the goals of the massacres and the manner in which they were each carried out. In the context of this

⁸ <http://justpaste.it/m00f> (Arabic).

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

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

¹¹ <http://www.al-aren.com/vb/> (Arabic).

comparison, al-Shanqiti claimed that Hamas committed the massacre in the mosque in order to eliminate a competing jihad movement, even though the Salafi jihadist groups posed no threat to Hamas. The Islamic State behaved in a similar way in Syria, where according to al-Shanqiti, the organization's greatest fear was that the Assad regime would fall into the hands of other jihad fighters. In addition, he claimed that both Hamas and the Islamic State excused their abandonment of God's defenders with the "blame of heresy" without any proof of that accusation. However, he emphasized that the Islamic State's cruelty was even worse than the cruelty exhibited in the Hamas massacre, and noted that the main difference between IS and Hamas was that the crime committed by Hamas was over, but that the Islamic State continued to commit atrocities.¹²

- The Shura Council of mujahideen in Derna spoke out against statements made by the Islamic State's official spokesman, Abu Muhammad al-Adnani, which were published under the title: "Answer the Proclamation Calling to Allah". Al-Adnani said that anyone who forged an agreement with the apostates would become one of them. According to the Shura Council, this claim was not true, since it was permissible to forge such agreements if they were made for the benefit of the Muslims. In addition, regarding al-Adnani's statement that shari'a is only applied today in territories controlled by the Islamic State, the Shura Council claimed the IS ruled according to the law of the jungle, and the organization had no connection to shari'a law other than words printed on the organization's flag.¹³
- Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Maqdisi published an article in which he explained why he didn't refer to members of the Islamic State as Khawarij (a name given to an ancient sect that split from Orthodox Islam. Since then the term has been used as a derogatory name for separatist Islamic groups, which rebel against the existing order and cause internal strife and division among the Islamic people). In the article, al-Maqdisi claimed that he avoided referring to Islamic State fighters as "Khawarij" since not all members of the organization were that type, but rather the organization's leadership was. According to al-Maqdisi, they were even worse than the Khawarij, because it guided and taught the other members of the organization to accuse other mujahideen and Muslims of apostasy, and to murder them. He also added that he didn't

¹² <https://al-aren.com/vb/> (Arabic).

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

denounce the statements made by his friends, such as Abu Qatada al-Filistini, who did call the members of the Islamic State "Khawarij", because he knew they were referring to the organization's leadership and not to every individual member of the organization. But since most of the common people did not understand this differentiation between the individuals who were members of the organization, and the leadership, he avoided making such an all-encompassing statement. He also claimed that he was prepared to forgive the young people who were led astray by the Islamic State and were prepared to repent. Therefore, he was not issuing any religious ruling that would permit rushing out to the battlefield to kill them all indiscriminately. In that context, al-Maqdisi mentions a religious ruling he made in the past, in which he does not permit anyone to fight against the Islamic State, except for in cases of self-defence – when the Islamic State fighters attack the mujahideen.¹⁴

- Abdullah al-Muhaysini, a Saudi religious scholar who identifying with the Al-Nusra Front, was interviewed by the *Telegram* regarding the beginning of the combat in Syria between the Islamic State and the other factions. During the interview, he accused the Islamic State of lacking a true foundation for a Caliphate, of killing other Muslims, and thus accusing other Muslims of heresy based on rumors, and not based on proven facts. In addition, later in the interview he presented proof of the accusations he made against the Islamic State, by presenting examples of events the organization was involved in.¹⁵
- Sheikh Hani Siba'i, a Salafi jihadist philosopher who supported Al-Qaeda, published a religious opinion about laws applying to Islamic State fighters killed in battle. According to Siba'i, there is no religiously based justification to regard them as *shahids*, because of their membership in an entity that raised the banner of fighting against Muslims. Furthermore, they should be regarded as Kahwarij – an ancient Muslim sect that zealously fought against anyone who didn't share their viewpoint, for they were not considered to be real Muslims.¹⁶
- Husayn bin Mahmud, a prominent jihad writer on jihad forums and on social media sites, called upon Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Adnani, the Islamic State's official spokesman, to stop killing

¹⁴ <https://alminara.files.wordpress.com/2015/06/khawarej1-justpaste-it-5072041.pdf>;

<https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (both in Arabic).

¹⁵ <https://al-aren.com/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁶ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

Muslims simply because they didn't meet his standards, and emphasized that such killing was an act of heresy. At the same time, he offered al-Adnani several suggestions for mending his ways, such as being cautious about passing judgement on Muslims by labelling them as apostates, and concentrating his efforts on improving the relationships between the other jihad groups, and more.¹⁷

The Islamic State Supporters

- The Ifriqya al-Muslima media group published an article justifying pledging allegiance to the Islamic State, by presenting passages about religious law authored by Sheik Abu Ahmad Abd al-Karim al-Jazairi.¹⁸

The group published another article titled "Clarification of the Mistake regarding one who passes judgement on the Abu Salim Martyrs Brigade, which was published by Al-Ansar Sharia in Libya, and which states that the Abu Salim Martyrs Brigade, an Islamic rebel group in Derna, Libya, are a group of apostates."¹⁹

- A prominent writer on jihadist forums, Gharib al-Ikhwan, who identified with the Islamic State, criticized Al-Qaeda and its branches, and in particular the Afghan Taliban, for straying from the path of jihad and minimizing their struggles to the Islamic State areas. According to al-Ikhwan, the Afghan Taliban, for example, concentrates its efforts on jihad only within the Afghan territory, and not beyond that. That is in contradiction to the Islamic State, which engages in jihad also outside of designated territories, without paying attention to national and political borders. Also according to al-Ikhwan, many jihad fighters were already leaving Al-Qaeda, and even the Afghan Taliban movement, to join the Islamic State. In light of that, the writer called upon Mulla Omar, leader of the Afghan Taliban, to forfeit his position of leadership and join the ranks of the Islamic State together with his soldiers.²⁰
- The Al-Battar media institution and the Media Front to Support the Islamic State published an article titled "The Caliphate State and the Uprising Organizations in Libya", written by an Islamic

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

¹⁸ <https://ia801500.us.archive.org/6/items/T3lqtBhia> (Arabic).

¹⁹ <https://ia801508.us.archive.org/20/items/ShuhadaBuSalim1> (Arabic).

²⁰ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

State fighter named Abu Bakre al-Barqawi. In the article, the author expresses his distress over armed groups in Libya attacked Islamic State fighters. According to al-Barqawi, such actions sabotage the efforts to implement sharia law in the region, and serve the enemies of the Muslims well.²¹

Religious Rulings

- The Al-Bushriyyat media institution published a religious ruling by Sheikh Abu Qatada Umar bin Mahmud, who is apparently a supporter of Al-Qaeda, permitting combat against rebels who attack other Muslims only because they don't share they same world view – and he calls them Khawarij – while they are exposed to attack by their enemies. This religious ruling was given as a response to a question asked by a jihad fighter in Libya, regarding, it seems, Islamic State fighters – particularly in Libya.²²
- Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb published a religious ruling about a Libyan politician named Mustafa Abd al_ajlil, regarding the “Security Committee”. The ruling was published in response to a question posed by the Sharia Committee of Ansar al-Sharia in Derna. The ruling included many passages from the Islamic sources, and concluded that it was preferable to avoid Takfir – proclaiming a person to be an apostate, in the case where there was no clear-cut evidence indicating that such an accusation was true.²³

Jihad and Women

The Al-Khansaa media institution, which identifies with the Islamic State and distributes materials related to women and jihad, began publishing a series of articles authored by women involved with jihad in different arenas. One the stories used as an example was by Umm al-Iraqiyya, who related how she helped the mujahideen during the war against the Americans, and how her brothers fell in combat and became *shahids*.²⁴

²¹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

²² <http://justpaste.it/lyku> (Arabic).

²³ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

²⁴ <http://justpaste.it/qisah1> (Arabic).

Pledges of Allegiance to the Islamic State

- The Al-Furat media institution, operating on behalf of the Islamic State and distributing material it produces in Russian, published a video about the pledge of allegiance to the Islamic State made by several Chechan fighters, to Abu Bakhr al-Baghdadi, leader of the Islamic State.²⁵ In another video published by the Islamic State, fighters from Dagestan, Chechnya, Ingushetia, and Kabika pledged allegiance to al-Baghdadi.²⁶
- The Dawat al-Haqq Dawa jihadist news agency noted that the governor of Nangarhar Province in Afghanistan swore allegiance to the Islamic State, together with 1,200 students and soldiers.²⁷

Strategy

- The Labayka media institution published a book about managing a war of nerves against the enemy, titled “Storms of Revenge against the Forces of Criminals” (125 pages), by Abu Shayma al-Sumali.²⁸
- The jihadist media group Nukhbat al-Fikr re-published an old book called “Rome Convention: in the Shadow of the Vatican”, which was first published in 1995, by Sheikh Abu Musab al-Suri, a prominent strategist from Al-Qaeda. In the book, al-Suri discusses the desirable path of jihad, and the challenges faced along that path.²⁹
- An anthology of old articles (480 pages) about strategic issues related to the Salafi jihad movement was published. The articles were written by Abdulla bin Muhammad, a well known writer on jihad forums and social media sites, and owner of a Twitter account called “Strategic Issues”. The first anthology included articles published up through October, 2011.³⁰
- A poster on the jihadist forum Shumukh al-Islam published an article by a writer called Tameh al-Ghazawi, including a series of suggestions for coping with interrogators, in the wake of arrests and interrogation of the Hamas against members of the Salafi movement in the Gaza

²⁵ https://archive.org/details/Bi3at_Ameer (Arabic).

²⁶ https://archive.org/details/QawqazBayah_1619 (Arabic).

²⁷ <http://dawaahaq.blogspot.co.il/2015/06/1200.html>

²⁸ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

²⁹ <http://justpaste.it/m16r> (Arabic).

³⁰ <http://justpaste.it/m17e> (Arabic).

Strip. Among other things, the author advises to avoid signing any documents during the interrogations, and calls upon detainees to guard themselves against moles placed in their cells [to get them to talk].³¹ Another poster in the same forum published a post calling upon members of the Salafi movement in Gaza not to remain silent in the face of “Iranian” Hamas acts, but rather to unite, to take up arms, and to retaliate. The poster explained that avoiding all activity opposite Hamas will only lead to another attack by the latter, and additional arrests of more Salafis in Gaza.³²

Books of Advice and Guidance

- A poster on the jihadist forum Shumukh al-Islam published a post titled “How to Protect Yourself on the Internet from Surveillance and Arrest”. The poster suggests using the TOR program in general, and activating the Bridges option in particular. Regarding cellular phones, the poster suggested that iPhone users activate VPN (not the American version), and to enter Twitter via Opera Mini or CyperGhost. The post added a list of links for downloading the relevant programs and applications.³³

Promoting the Myth of the Martyr

Reactions to the Death of Abu Basir al-Wahishi

- Al-Qaeda in the Sinai Peninsula officially announced the death of Nasir al-Wuhayshi , a leader of Al-Qaeda in the Sinai Peninsula (AQAP), who was killed in an American air strike on June 12, 2015. Jihad groups and organizations that support Al-Qaeda expressed their condolences and glorified the man and his contributions to jihad against the enemies of Islam. Abdelmalek Droukdel, leader of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, published a recorded message in which he eulogized al-Wuhayshi, praised his activities in the various jihad arenas, and reiterated his loyalty to Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri, leader of Al-Qaeda.³⁴ Among the jihad leaders and organizations that eulogized al-Wuhayshi were: Abu Mahmoud al-Julani - leader of Al-Nusra

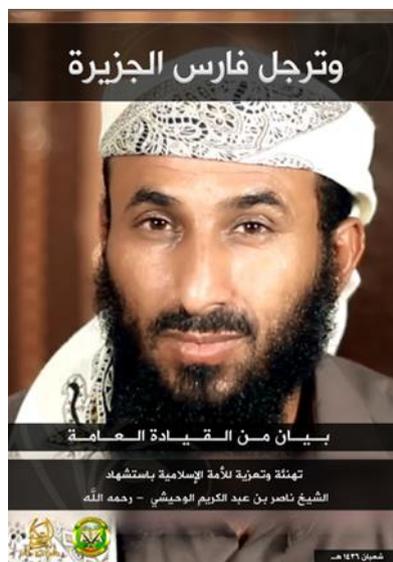
³¹ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

³² <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

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

³⁴ <http://goo.gl/IQFN3k> (Arabic).

Front in Syria,³⁵ Al-Shabaab Al-Mujahideen in Somalia,³⁶ Ansar Al-Furqan (Balochistan), Dagestan Province of the Caucasus Islamic Emirate, Ansar Al-Din (Syria), “The Salafi Nation Army in Jerusalem” (Gaza Strip), Abdallah Azzam Brigades (Lebanon), Ansar Al-Islam (Syria), The Global Islamic Media Front, and others.³⁷



A banner produced by Al-Shabaab Al-Mujahideen in memory of al-Wuhayshi

- A supporter of the Islamic State published a eulogy in memory of Al-Tariq al-Harazi Abu Umar al-Tunisi, as well as a biography about him. For instance, it was written that he emigrated from Tunisia to the jihad arena in 2003 and fulfilled a series of tasks against American forces. For example, he was in charge of shooting anti-aircraft weapons in Iraq, and was eventually in charge of artillery fire in Barqa Province in Syria. It was also written that he was killed in Mosul, Iraq, as a result of a coalition force air strike.³⁸

³⁵ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

³⁶ <https://www.alfidaa.info/vb/> (Arabic).

³⁷ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

³⁸ <http://justpaste.it/ltzx>; <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (both in Arabic).



Al-Tariq al-Harazi Abu 'Umar al-Tunisi

Magazines

- The Afghan Islamic Emirate published the new issue of the *Al-Somood* magazine, which deals with the jihad arena in Afghanistan: issue #111 (44 pages), for the months of June and July, 2015.³⁹
- The second issue of *Resurgence* magazine was published by Al-Qaeda. This issue was dedicated in its entirety to an American named Adam Yahya Gadan, a senior official in Al-Qaeda.⁴⁰



Adam Gadan

- The 14th issue of the journal “*This is Your Nation – One Nation*” was published by Ansar Al-Sharia in Libya. Among the articles in this issue were: blessings from the leader of the organization, Abu Khaled al-Madani, in honor of the month of Ramadan; updates about various acts committed by the organization against Kiftar’s forces; photo reports about distributing food and other necessities to civilians; and a report on the “jihad news” from around the world.⁴¹

³⁹ <https://al-aren.com/vb/> (Arabic).

⁴⁰ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

⁴¹ <https://goo.gl/6SnxjB> (Arabic).



The 14th issue of "This is Your Nation"

- The third issue of the magazine *Al-Wad Al-Akhir* was published by the Salafi jihad movement in the Gaza Strip.⁴²

Reports from the Field

Afghanistan-Pakistan

In the second half of June, clashes between the Afghan-Taliban and the government and army continued throughout Afghanistan, with the organization taking control of Chardara near Kunduz Province in north Afghanistan, and the army carrying out a counter attack in order to regain control of the area.⁴³ At the same time Afghan-Taliban fighters attacked the Afghan parliament in Kabul with car bombs and armed fighters who raided the building.⁴⁴ Also, 11 Afghan soldiers were killed when Taliban fighters attacked an army convoy in Herat Province in western Afghanistan.⁴⁵ In addition, the organization continued its struggles against NATO, which still maintained a presence in the country, with fighters attacked a NATO convoy in Kabul at the end of the month.⁴⁶

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

⁴³ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/afghan-army-kunduz-chardara-taliban-150621182030665.html>

⁴⁴ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/explosions-gunfire-rock-afghan-parliament-kabul-150622060232229.html>

⁴⁵ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/taliban-ambush-kills-afghan-soldiers-150629064811797.html>

⁴⁶ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/large-explosion-hits-afghanistan-capital-kabul-150630090537608.html>

In the meantime, in the Pakistan arena, air strikes by the Pakistan Army against Taliban fighters continued, with the army reporting at the end of the month on the deaths of 20 fighters from the organization in the northwest part of the country, near the Afghan border.⁴⁷

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan

- The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan published the following:
 - The deputy leader of the Afghan-Taliban, Akhtar Mohammad Mansour, published a statement in which he addressed the leader of the Islamic State, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, and their brothers the mujahideen, and asked the Islamic State fighters to join the Afghan-Taliban and thereby end the division between the jihad fighters. In addition, he warned him about creating new jihad groups under the auspices of the Islamic State within Afghanistan, claiming that this would not benefit the Muslims or jihad, and would only lead to division. He added that it was the Taliban's religious obligation to desire only the best for the Islamic State, but since they were not involved in the organization's matters, they expected the Islamic State to have the same attitude towards them. He also said that the jihad activity in Afghanistan would take place under one flag – that of the Afghan-Taliban, and that the goal was to hit the enemies of Islam. In addition, Mansour threatened that if members of the Islamic State interfered in matters of the Afghan-Taliban, that would enrage the Muslims against the IS, and the Taliban would have to retaliate.⁴⁸
 - At the annual conference in Oslo, held on June 16 – 17, the head of the Afghan-Taliban political bureau, Sayed Tayyeb Agha, claimed that it appeared that the Afghan-Taliban did not speak with the Afghan people, but only sat to speak with foreign elements, to say the least. He added that figures in the Afghan-Taliban had started meeting with Afghan parties, and the talks were continuing. However, he emphasized that until now there had not been any talks with government officials in Kabul, because, according to Agha, the government did not have the power to reach a decision about important issues, and therefore the talks with the government were

⁴⁷ <http://goo.gl/vJFvg7>

⁴⁸ <http://www.shahamat-arabic.com/archives/2652> (Arabic).

not effective. At the end of his speech, he added that the American and other foreign entities were responsible for the problems of the Afghans, and therefore, his organization was interested in talking to them first.⁴⁹

- A video titled “The Conquest of the ChahrDara”⁵⁰ and a video titled “Liberation of Dashti Archi”.⁵¹

The Afghan Taliban

- The Umar media institution, belonging to the Pakistan Taliban organization, published a video titled “Training Special Fidayun Forces”.⁵²

The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan

- The Jundallah media institution, belonging to the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, published a statement made by Uthman Ghazi, leader of the movement, which was characterized by harsh criticism and expressions of extreme dissatisfaction over the conduct of Mulla Umar, leader of the Afghan-Taliban. According to Ghazi, there was not any solid proof that Umar was even still alive. It had been 12 years since the fall of the Islamic Afghan Emirate, during which the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan battled against the Crusader occupiers. According to Ghazi, Mulla Umar had not been able to wield his power or implement the Saria laws for the past 13 years in any Afghan territory. He added that during all those years members of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan had searched for Mulla Umar in order to meet with him, but their hopes were repeatedly dashed. Ghazi even ridiculed all those who claim that Mulla Umar is alive, claiming that they haven’t been able to provide a shred of evidence that he lives. “The people who possess the truth are hiding it. Until now they have broadcast to the people, on more than one occasion, fabricated blessings and instructions bearing Umar’s name. Today there is no trace of the Al-Mulla Mohammad Umar’s leadership in the political world or at important events, neither at times of sorrow or on joyful occasions.” Therefore, his disappearance “for many years

⁴⁹ <http://www.shahamat-arabic.com/archives/3139> (Arabic).

⁵⁰ <http://shahamat-english.com/the-conquest-of-chahrdara-a-new-video-release-of-recent-conquests-in-kunduz/>

⁵¹ <http://shahamat-english.com/a-new-video-report-by-al-emarah-studio-liberation-of-dashti-archi/>

⁵² <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

should be viewed as treachery and even cowardice, for which there can be no forgiveness.” For a political vacuum was created with regard to all of the nation’s problems which need to be solved. Later, Ghazi emphasized that he had reached the conclusion that Mulla was no longer alive, and that he would not change his opinion unless he saw Mulla face to face. Therefore, he would view any letter bearing Mulla’s name as forged, and an act of fraud.⁵³



Uthman Ghazi

The Arabian Peninsula

In the second half of June, Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) was hit hard with the murder of Sheikh Nasir al-Wuhayshi. The loss of al-Wuhayshi was another death in a long line of continuous murders of senior officials in the organization since January 2015. As a result of the murder, the organization announced that Qasim al-Rimi would serve as its new commander. It can be safely assumed that on the backdrop of this wave of killing, the organization will be forced to engage in serious self-examination in order to put a stop to leaks of information regarding the location of senior officials. Evidence of this need was expressed in the execution of two Saudis accused of spying for American Intelligence organizations, by fighters from Ansar Al-Sharia – an organization affiliated with Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.⁵⁴ Nonetheless, Al-Rimi’s swift appointment as leader of the organization can be seen as a sign of good organizational capability, and as an effort to make an outward display that the organization continues to maintain its power.

At the same time, Yemen continued to be submerged in a lengthy civil war. The Saudi army, in cooperation with several allies, continued to bomb rebel Shi’ite Houthi targets in Yemen, and also those of their ally the Yemenite Army, in order to expel them from the capital city Sanaa and return

⁵³ <http://justpaste.it/ghazi01> (Arabic).

⁵⁴ <http://www.aljazeera.net/news/reportsandinterviews/2015/6/19/ماذا-وراء-تساقط-قياديي-القاعدة-باليمن> (Arabic).

the seat of government to the ousted President, Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi.⁵⁵ The Houthis were also making efforts to strike Arab coalition forces on supply lines. For example, the Houthi rebels launched rockets at the oil reserves in the port city of Aden in southern Yemen, and even tried to hit a Qatar boat that was transporting food from Jibuti to the port.⁵⁶

The Islamic State demonstrated its impressive capabilities to carry out a series of attacks against the Houthis in Yemen. On June 17, the organization claimed responsibility for a vehicle bomb attack involving four cars near mosques and near the Houthi headquarters in the capital city of Saana. More than 30 people were killed in those explosions, while at the same time negotiations promoted by the UN took place in Geneva, though no significant progress was made.⁵⁷

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula

- A new jihad media institution called Al-Hikma Al-Ilamiyya was launched. This institution focused on news related to the jihad arena in Yemen, and in particular Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. According to the organization, the institution was established in place of the jihad organizations Al-Hussam, since collaboration between the manager of Al-Hussam's Twitter account and Saudi and Western spy rings was revealed. As a result, several activists and jihad leaders were killed. It was also written that the new media institution, Al-Hikma Al-Ilamiyya, would have two Twitter accounts. The first – ALHKMA_1@ - would feature official advertisements posted by Al-Qaeda. The second – ALHKMA_2@ - would feature unofficial advertisement. In addition, the media institution announced that anyone who wanted to advertise on those Twitter accounts could make contact via: mojahdYEe05.⁵⁸

⁵⁵ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-33236209> (English).

⁵⁶ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/yemen-houthis-attack-oil-refinery-aden-150627152313777.html> (English).

⁵⁷ <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/18/world/middleeast/isis-claims-responsibility-for-deadly-bombings-in-yemen.html>

⁵⁸ <http://justpaste.it/ALHKMA-1>; <https://al-aren.com/vb/> (both in Arabic).



The logo banner

- Ansar Al-Sharia, an organization affiliated with Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, published a video documenting the activities of its members against the Houthis in Abyan Province.⁵⁹

The Islamic State in Sa'ana Province

- The Islamic State in Sa'ana Province published the following:
 - A claim of responsibility for detonating four car bombs against mosques and the Shi'ite Houthi political office in Sa'ana.⁶⁰
 - A claim of responsibility for a car bomb exploding near the Houthi mosque, near Sa'ana.⁶¹
 - A claim of responsibility for the detonation of an explosive device at a Houthi security check point.⁶²
 - A video titled "A Year of the Caliphate". In the video, some of the organization's members praise the determined activities of the Islamic State over the last year, against the tyrannical regimes in the region, with the purpose of moving towards successful implementation of shari'a principles and an Islamic Caliphate in the region.⁶³

⁵⁹ <http://justpaste.it/ltlz> (Arabic).

⁶⁰ https://twitter.com/nnstar_99/status/611240884252864513 (Arabic).

⁶¹ https://twitter.com/islam_win/status/612382799425712128 (Arabic).

⁶² https://twitter.com/islam_win/status/613084715264782336 (Arabic).

⁶³ <https://archive.org/details/3am3laAlkhelafa> (Arabic).

The Islamic State in Najd Province

- The Islamic State in Najd Province published a claim of responsibility for a suicide attack at a Shi'ite prayer center in the capital of Kuwait, in which dozens were killed or injured (according to newspaper sources, 27 people were killed in the attack and over 200 were injured).⁶⁴ The announcement said that the attack was carried out by a suicide bomber named Abu Sulayman al-Muwahhid, who detonated an explosive belt near a group of congregants. In addition, the announcement explained that the prayer house called the Imam Sadeq Mosque, where the attack took place, promoted "shia-ziation" in Kuwait, propagated polytheism, and supported the "Satan party" (Hezbollah).⁶⁵

Iraq

In Iraq, clashes between the Islamic State and the Shi'ite Iraqi Army militias continued, mostly in Al-Anbar Province.⁶⁶ At the same time, The International Organization for Migration (IOM) stated that as a result of the conflict with the Islamic State, the number of displaced Iraqi civilians who had lost their homes had reached at least three million from January, 2014 to June, 2015. Most of the refugees were from Al-Anbar Province, Nineveh, and Salah Al-Din.⁶⁷

Regarding United States interference in Iraq, the American Secretary of State, Ashton Carter, claimed that the American efforts to train the Iraqi Army had encountered many difficulties, because the Iraqi government didn't send any new Iraqi recruits to be trained. In addition, Carter emphasized the need for empowering the Sunni tribes in the war against the Islamic State in Iraq.⁶⁸ At the same time, in the framework of coalition forces attacks in Iraq, the Pentagon reported that Ali Awni al-Harzi, a Tunisian senior official in the Islamic State, was killed in Mosul in Iraq. Al-Harzi was suspected of attacking the American embassy in Libya in September, 2012.⁶⁹

⁶⁴ <http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2015/06/26/Explosion-hits-mosque-in-Kuwait-during-Friday-prayers-.html> (English).

⁶⁵ <http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2015/06/26/Explosion-hits-mosque-in-Kuwait-during-Friday-prayers-.html> (English).

⁶⁶ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/iraq-hit-deadly-attacks-150625125805023.html> (English).

⁶⁷ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/million-iraqis-displaced-fighting-150623165038442.html> (English).

⁶⁸ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-33173095> (English).

⁶⁹ <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3135359/US-says-IS-suspect-Benghazi-attack-killed-airstrike.html> (English).

The media reported that the Pentagon had affirmed that the Islamic State had enough radioactive material to build a dirty bomb. According to the Pentagon, the material was taken from research institutes and from hospitals that were captured by the organization in Iraq.⁷⁰ However, this news item was later denied.⁷¹

The Islamic State

- The Al-Furqan media institution, operating on behalf of the Islamic State, published a propaganda video titled "And they gave Zakat (charity)". The video, which was publicized in honor of the first anniversary of founding the Islamic Caliphate, reported on the activities of the charity institutions set up by the Islamic State in territories under its control, in Syria and Iraq.⁷² The video played an important role in the course of creating awareness that the Islamic State had the capability and the means to care for the civilian population, in contradiction to the claims of its critics.



The video banner

The Islamic State - Baghdad Province

- The Islamic State in Baghdad Province published a claim of responsibility for detonating a parked car bomb against a group of the Popular Mobilization Forces in the Karrada neighborhood, in central Baghdad. According to the announcement, the attack left over 20 injured and killed in its wake.⁷³

⁷⁰ <http://awdnews.com/top-news/pentagon-confirms-isis-radioactive-dirty-bomb-claims> (English).

⁷¹ <http://dailycaller.com/2015/06/23/pentagon-we-did-not-confirm-isis-has-dirty-bomb-materials/> (English).

⁷² <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

⁷³ https://twitter.com/Al_shara4/status/615076906250149888 (Arabic).

The Islamic State – Saladin Province

- The Islamic State in the Saladin Province published the following:
 - A fourth video in a series titled “Those who Carry the Wounds of Their Ummah”. The video documented a Yemenite fighter called Abu al-Hajjaj al-Yamani, who called upon the Sunnis in Yemen to act out against the Houthis, whom he described as “more dangerous to Islam than the Jews and the Christians.” At the end of the video Abu al-Hajjaj got into a car full of explosives and detonated himself at an Iraqi army post in the city of Baiji.⁷⁴



Abu al-Hajjaj al-Yamani – incitement against the Houthis in Yemen

- A photo report about the shooting and killing of three members of the Iraqi Army forces near the city of Samarra, and the execution of two members of the Shi’ite Popular Mobilization Forces.⁷⁵
- Photo reports about the following topics: Destruction of the “Polytheistic Sites” in the province with explosives and bulldozers,⁷⁶ food distribution to families,⁷⁷ and picking fruit and vegetables in the province.⁷⁸

The Islamic State – Falluja Province

- The Islamic State in Falluja Province published the following:
 - A photo report on a workshop about armored military vehicles. The organization’s videos indicated that the Islamic State used armed vehicles as bombs for suicide

⁷⁴ <https://isdarat.xyz/16144> (Arabic).

⁷⁵ <https://isdarat.xyz/16583>; <https://isdarat.xyz/16449> (Arabic).

⁷⁶ <https://isdarat.xyz/16635> (Arabic).

⁷⁷ <https://isdarat.xyz/16633> (Arabic).

⁷⁸ <https://isdarat.xyz/16581> (Arabic).

attacks.⁷⁹



Armoring vehicles in an Islamic State workshop in Falluja Province

- A photo report about activities in a workshop about constructing homemade explosive devices.⁸⁰

The Islamic State – Nineveh Province

- The Islamic State in Nineveh Province published the following:
 - A video titled "But if you Return, We Shall Return". The video featured a series of executions of about 50 men who were accused of spying and transmitting information against the Islamic State and its allies. The executions were carried out in three groups, using the following methods: shooting an RPG at a vehicle in which the accused were sitting, placing the accused in a cage and drowning them, and connecting an explosive cable to the necks of the accused and then detonating it. In the video it was clarified that the executions were in retaliation for Coalition attacks around Mosul, and as an “eye for an eye” revenge for the deaths of innocent people.⁸¹
 - A video on the subject of Ribat activities (defending Islamic land) in the province. The video described the daily routine of the Ribat fighters during the month of Ramadan, in an effort to present a picture of their lives as integrating both active fighting and religious practice.⁸²

⁷⁹ <https://isdarat.xyz/16640> (Arabic).

⁸⁰ <https://isdarat.xyz/16397> (Arabic).

⁸¹ <https://isdarat.xyz/16465> (Arabic).

⁸² <https://isdarat.xyz/16667> (Arabic).

- A series of reports about different civilian subjects, such as establishing a mosque in the name of Abu Umar al-Baghdadi,⁸³ selling candy and dates in the month of Ramadan,⁸⁴ and having picnics on the banks of the Hidekel River.⁸⁵ A report was also published about the destruction of a stage used for ceremonies in the city of Musol, as the “tyrants” used it.⁸⁶

The Islamic State – Al-Furat Province

- The Islamic State in Al-Furat Province published the following:
 - A video titled “Harvest of Spies 2”, documenting the execution of a man accused of transmitting information about Islamic State sites in Al-Qaem, and thereby assisting the Coalition Forces attacks.⁸⁷
 - A photo report about the execution of two men accused of spying for the Popular Mobilization Forces.⁸⁸

The Islamic State – Al-Anbar Province

- The Islamic State in the Al-Anbar Province published the following:
 - Claiming responsibility for killing an officer and destroying a Hummer in the framework of pushing back and attack of the Iraqi Army against the Islamic State in the Jubba region.⁸⁹
 - Documentation of the execution of a man accused of spying for the Iraqi Army.⁹⁰
 - Photo reports about civilian topics, such as: Renovating and re-opening a public hospital, and documentation of activities in the Ramadi market.⁹¹

⁸³ <https://isdarat.xyz/16434> (Arabic).

⁸⁴ <https://isdarat.xyz/16457>; <https://isdarat.xyz/16537> (Arabic).

⁸⁵ <https://isdarat.xyz/16585> (Arabic).

⁸⁶ <https://isdarat.xyz/16538> (Arabic).

⁸⁷ <https://isdarat.xyz/16700> (Arabic).

⁸⁸ <https://isdarat.xyz/16651> (Arabic).

⁸⁹ https://twitter.com/ISIS_25M/status/615885351102607360 (Arabic).

⁹⁰ <https://twitter.com/02b7127f1d87433/status/615918215475122176> (Arabic).

⁹¹ https://twitter.com/safa8_10/status/615547728043466752 (Arabic).

https://twitter.com/islam_win/status/615520805552676864 (Arabic).

The Islamic State – Al-Jazira Province

- The Islamic State in Al-Jazira Province published the following:
 - A video of blessings delivered by fighters in the province on the occasion of the pledge of allegiance received from the Caucasus. Three fighters were featured in the video, most likely from Caucasus, who blessed the pledge of allegiance, called for maintaining unity among the ranks, and encouraged Muslims around the world to kill the apostates and immigrate to Caliphate territories.⁹²



Caucasus fighters in Al-Jazira Province blessing the joining of Caucasus to the Caliphate

- Photo reports about building a mosque in the city of Tal Afar, and decorating walls in the town of Ba’aj with Islamic and Dawa messages.⁹³

The Islamic State – Kirkuk Province

- The Islamic State in the Kirkuk Province published the following:
 - A video about a training camp named after Sheikh Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, where five classes of recruits had been trained thus far. The training in the camp included sharia studies alongside physical exercises, swimming, learning to use various weapons, and practice at implementing attacks.⁹⁴
 - A video about a Coalition Forces attack on the Hawijah Market, documenting the consequences of the attack, including images of the dead and injured.⁹⁵

⁹² <https://archive.org/details/fg4Fh> (Arabic).

⁹³ https://twitter.com/HG_14/status/615989185992892416 (Arabic).

http://s14.postimg.org/5fcqwgth/Civ_JJ6_JUc_AA1n0_D_jpg_large.jpg (Arabic).

⁹⁴ <https://isdarat.xyz/16684> (Arabic).

⁹⁵ <https://isdarat.xyz/16381> (Arabic).

The Islamic State – Al-Janub Province

- The Islamic State in Al-Janub Province published the following:
 - A video summarizing the statistics about the military operations in the province during the months of May and June, with detailed data about bombings, killings, ambushes, raids, and exploding targets. According to the video, the operations lead to the deaths and injuries of about 170 Iraqi Army and Shi'ite militia personal, with 18 posts and 36 vehicles destroyed.⁹⁶
 - A photo report about shooting a mortar from a 360 mm cannon at Iraqi Army posts.⁹⁷

The Islamic State – Diyala Province

- The Islamic State in the Diyala Province published photo reports about a factory in the province that manufactured mortar bombs,⁹⁸ and about shooting the mortar bombs at Shi'ite forces in the Qurat Taba region.⁹⁹

The Islamic State – Djila Province

- The Islamic State in Djila Province published a video titled “Deterring Spies”, in which the execution of several spies was documented.¹⁰⁰

Al-Sham [The Levant]

Clashes continued in Ayn al-Arab (Kobane) in northern Syria, between the Islamic State and Kurdish militias.¹⁰¹ Battles between ISIS and the PG Kurdish forces also took place in the Ayn Issa region, in the Tell Abyad District.¹⁰² The Kurdish success at pushing back ISIS in this area lead to hundreds of Syrian refugees returning to their homeland from Turkey.¹⁰³

⁹⁶ <https://isdarat.xyz/16427> (Arabic).

⁹⁷ <https://isdarat.xyz/16564> (Arabic).

⁹⁸ <https://twitter.com/nasertamimi/status/615306487821377536> (Arabic).

⁹⁹ https://twitter.com/Muhibbu_Dawlah/status/612922500188508161 (Arabic).

¹⁰⁰ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic)

¹⁰¹ <http://goo.gl/hHmA3I> (Arabic).

¹⁰² <https://goo.gl/sF4QkN> (Arabic).

¹⁰³ <https://goo.gl/sknS7X> (Arabic).

At the same time, the Islamic State continued to engage in its atrocious acts against the civilian population in the areas under its control. Among other things, it was reported that in Dayr al-Sawr Province the organization executed two women accused of witchcraft,¹⁰⁴ and sold 42 captured Yezidi women for prices ranging between \$500 and \$2000 dollars.¹⁰⁵ On a more general note, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) reported that since the establishment of the Caliphate was proclaimed in June 2014, the Islamic State had executed over 3,000 people – both civilians and militants.¹⁰⁶

At the political level, the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin, announced that Moscow was willing to work opposite the Syrian President, Bashar al-Assad, in order to prepare the ground for a political reform in Syria.¹⁰⁷ Al-Assad himself agreed with the UN emissary to Syria, Staffan de Mistura, about continued talks with the goal of reaching an “effective political resolution”.¹⁰⁸

Syria

Al-Nusra Front

- The Al-Manar Al-Bayda media institution, identifying with the Al-Nusra Front, published the following:
 - A video in which Abu Mohammad al-Julani, leader of the Al-Nusra Front, expressed his condolences over the death of the leader of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), Nasir al-Wuhayshi. During the video, al-Julani addresses Qasim al-Raymi, al-Wuhayshi’s replacement as leader of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, and claimed that the brave soldiers from the Yemen Army standing behind him saw death as an advantage and life as a disadvantage. He added that al-Raymi could expect a lot of work in Yemen and outside of Yemen, since the fighting was still going on. In addition, the video called upon al-Julani and the Al-Qaeda soldiers in Yemen to fight against the enemies of Allah. He also called upon the Yemenite people to demonstrate patience and support the

¹⁰⁴ <http://goo.gl/ZJL2T> (Arabic).

¹⁰⁵ <http://goo.gl/1OUuUT> (Arabic).

¹⁰⁶ <http://goo.gl/Ksaz3a> (Arabic).

¹⁰⁷ <https://goo.gl/UCiIRy> (Arabic).

¹⁰⁸ <http://goo.gl/0h79RV> (Arabic).

mujahideen.¹⁰⁹

- A video titled “The Heirs of Glory”, which is a collection of interviews with senior leaders in the Al-Nusra Front about the organization’s activities and achievements.¹¹⁰



The video banner

- Documentation of the Dawa Office activities and the guidance provided by the Al-Nusra Front regarding implementing sharia laws.¹¹¹



A representative of Al-Nusra Front talking about the organization’s efforts to educate the local population about the sharia law

Jaysh al-Fath

- Jaysh Al-Fath, a coalition of Salafi jihad organizations lead by the Al-Nusra Front, published a video announcing the establishment of a branch of the organization in southern Syria.¹¹²

¹⁰⁹ <http://justpaste.it/lxqo> (Arabic).

¹¹⁰ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

¹¹¹ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

¹¹² <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

The Islamic State

The Islamic State – Aleppo Province

- The Islamic State in the Aleppo Province published the following:
 - A video titled "A Message to Our People in Jerusalem", documenting Palestinian fighters heavily criticizing Hamas. A fighter named Abu Qatada al-Maqdisi (of Jerusalem) appears in the video, criticizing the way Hamas handles Salafi elements in the Gaza Strip with a hard hand. He also discussed the death of Yunus al-Hunar, a Salafi jihadist fighter killed by Hamas security forces when he resisted arrest. In addition, a Gaza fighter named Abu Azzam al-Ghazawi appeared in the video, ridiculing Hamas as being a national movement devoted to the flag and the restrictions of Sykes-Picot, instead of implementing the Islamic laws of sharia in Gaza territory. In addition, al-Ghazawi made direct threats regarding the State of Israel and claimed that Islamic State forces “were getting closer to Palestine every day”. A fighter named Abu Allasha al-Ghazawi transmitted another message, calling upon the mujahideen in Gaza to stand strong. The video ended with a renewed pledge of allegiance of the fighters to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.¹¹³



Palestinian Islamic State fighters in Syria threaten Hamas

- A video about thwarting an attempt by Sahawat forces to penetrate an area near the umm Hawsh community. The video featured Islamic State fighters pushing back the forces with a suicide bomber and shooting, and thus being able to capture from the Sahawat forces weapons, ammunition, and a T-72 tank.¹¹⁴

¹¹³ <https://isdarat.xyz/16704> (Arabic).

¹¹⁴ <https://isdarat.xyz/16454> (Arabic).

- Photo reports about market activities in the cities of Al-Bab and Manbij,¹¹⁵ and about the establishment of a central market in Aleppo.



From Turkestan to Aleppo Province – probably the oldest fighter to join the ranks of the Islamic State

The Islamic State – Homs Province

- The Islamic State in the Homs Province published the following:
 - A video documenting the clashes against the Syrian Army in the Jazal region. The stages of the attack included monitoring movement of the forces, softening targets with Katyusha rockets, mortar rockets, and tanks, firing a thermal missile at a tank, and continued attacks with light and medium weapons. At the end of the video weapons and ammunition – including a tank - taken as booty were displayed.¹¹⁶
 - A video about the amputation of the hand and foot of two people accused of Hiraba [any crime that causes disruption of the peace]. The video explained that the two had stolen vehicles and goats from local residents, and therefore their punishment according to Islamic law was amputation of the right hand and left foot of each of them.¹¹⁷
 - A video about the reconciliation between the family of a man murdered, and the family of the murderer. They made peace in order to avoid a blood feud. A representative of the Islamic State appeared in the video, asking the family of the murdered man to forgive the family of the murderer. The reconciliation was marked

¹¹⁵ <https://isdarat.xyz/16444>; <https://isdarat.xyz/16567> (Arabic).

¹¹⁶ <https://isdarat.xyz/16386> (Arabic).

¹¹⁷ <https://isdarat.xyz/16711> (Arabic).

with a meal and joint prayers.¹¹⁸

- Photo reports about the following subjects: exploding a pilgrimage site that is considered forbidden by Salafi Islam,¹¹⁹ distribution of Zakat in the city of Palmyra,¹²⁰ and market activities in Tadmor during the days of Ramadan.¹²¹

The Islamic State – Al-Baraka Province

- The Islamic State in Al-Baraka Province (originally Al-Hasaka Province) published the following:
 - A claim of responsibility for two suicide attacks against Syrian regime forces, and against the Kurdish PKK militias in the city of Al-Hasaka. It should be noted that it is clear from the report that based on his nickname, one of the terrorists was from Iran – Abu Qatada al-Irani.¹²² Coinciding with the double suicide attack, four armed fighters penetrated an army base in the center of the city of Hasaka and killed dozens of soldiers and officers by shooting them and detonating explosive belts.¹²³ In an announcement following that penetration, it was stated that Brigadier General Ghassan al-Hilweh, of the Syrian army, was killed in that operation.¹²⁴
 - An announcement about the Islamic State taking control of several neighborhoods in the western section of the city of Hasaka. In the announcement it was stated that a number of IS brigades had penetrated the city during the night and taken over the western area of the Al-Nashwa District, as well as adjacent areas.¹²⁵
 - A claim of responsibility for a number of terror and military attacks against the Syrian Army in the province: a double suicide attack in the Geweran neighborhood in Hasaka, and taking control of the eastern section of the neighborhood,¹²⁶ an attack against two

¹¹⁸ <https://isdarat.xyz/16134> (Arabic).

¹¹⁹ <https://isdarat.xyz/16451> (Arabic).

¹²⁰ <https://isdarat.xyz/16436> (Arabic).

¹²¹ <https://isdarat.xyz/16399> (Arabic).

¹²² https://twitter.com/Muhibbu_Dawlah/status/613491217595117568 (Arabic).

¹²³ https://twitter.com/Muhibbu_Dawlah/status/613623549677338625 (Arabic).

¹²⁴ https://twitter.com/Abo_Wahib_IS3/status/613821683414208515 (Arabic).

¹²⁵ <https://twitter.com/cyiicccc/status/614051982328754177> (Arabic).

¹²⁶ <https://twitter.com/basooma19999/status/615687834083549184> (Arabic).

https://twitter.com/Mee_6199/status/614836090155855873 (Arabic).

villages west of Tell Brak¹²⁷ and taking control of a sport field and several buildings adjacent to the central prison in Hasaka.¹²⁸ Later, reports were published stating that the Islamic State had successfully penetrated the central prison itself and released the prisoners.¹²⁹

- A proclamation attributed to “The Dawa and Mosques Department” of the Islamic State, about a Quran contest with prizes, sponsored by the organization. The proclamation explained in which mosques registration for the contest would take place, and what prizes were being offered: Each contestant who came in first, second, and third place would win a woman taken captive by the Islamic State. And those who won fourth through tenth place would receive monetary prizes of up to 100,000 Syrian lira (about \$530). It is important to note that it is not possible to determine if this was an authentic proclamation, since the format of the proclamation is different from the familiar format usually used by the Islamic State when it published other announcements.¹³⁰
- Photo reports and announcements about weapons and equipment taken as booty during the organization’s attacks. Among the booty was: light, medium, and heavy weapons; mortar rockets, ammunition, RPG rockets, Kornet rockets, communication equipment, and vehicles.¹³¹
- A photo report about the killing of four people who were accused of spying against the Islamic State, on behalf of the Syrian government.¹³²

The Islamic State - Damascus Province

- The Islamic State in Damascus Province published the following:
 - A video about the liberation of the Mehasseh area south of Al-Qaryatan, in an attack involving light weapons and machine guns. At the end of the video weapons and

¹²⁷ <https://twitter.com/nasertamimi/status/614776526589030400> (Arabic).

¹²⁸ <https://twitter.com/nasertamimi/status/614891752378494976> (Arabic).

¹²⁹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PS2eZ5K9S6s>; <http://www.tahrirnews.com/posts/139922> (both in Arabic).

¹³⁰ https://twitter.com/Yaser_Pal/status/612954300629811200 (Arabic).

¹³¹ <https://twitter.com/albattary/status/614461835538997248> (Arabic).

https://twitter.com/ng_karim_s/status/614404951247224833 (Arabic).

<https://twitter.com/nasertamimi/status/614471159841689600> (Arabic).

¹³² https://twitter.com/sh_salazd/status/610792609183731712 (Arabic).

<https://twitter.com/Ottomanisambol/status/611060836208111616> (Arabic).

ammunition captured by the organization were displayed.¹³³

- A video documenting the execution of twelve fighters from Jaysh Al-Islam and the Al-Nusra Front, who were captured by the Islamic State east of Qalamun. The captives were beheaded, but only after each one of them made threats towards Zahran Alloush, commander of Jaysh Al-Islam.¹³⁴



The execution of Jaysh Al-Islam fighters

- Photo reports about various civilian matters, such as: the destruction at Zabadani as a result of air strikes,¹³⁵ marketplace activities in the Al-Yarmouk camp,¹³⁶ and the activities of bakeries in Bir Qasab.¹³⁷
- Photo reports about operational subjects, such as: a workshop teaching how to build explosives in Al-Yarmouk,¹³⁸ and exploding Syrian Army posts on the Homs-Damascus highway.¹³⁹

The Islamic State – Raqqa Province

- The Islamic State in the Raqqa Province published the following:
 - A video featuring a fighter named Abu Mahdi al-Tajiki, who encouraged the Muslims in his country to engage in Hijra and join the ranks of the Islamic State. Al-Tajiki carried out a suicide attack against Kurdish PKK militia forces in the Al-Raqqa region.¹⁴⁰

¹³³ <https://isdarat.xyz/16236> (Arabic).

¹³⁴ <https://goo.gl/lCjeJp> (Arabic).

¹³⁵ <https://isdarat.xyz/16571> (Arabic).

¹³⁶ <https://isdarat.xyz/16570> (Arabic).

¹³⁷ <https://isdarat.xyz/16577> (Arabic).

¹³⁸ <https://isdarat.xyz/16569> (Arabic).

¹³⁹ <https://isdarat.xyz/16575> (Arabic).

¹⁴⁰ https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?id=100893150254985&story_fbid=101725796838387 (Arabic).



Abu Mahdi al-Tajiki

- A video including a speech made by one of the organization’s religious figures in the province. The speaker lavished praise on the Quran, called upon Muslims to reconnect to their Lord during the month of Ramadan, and to stand strong in the face of the air strikes. He even expressed hope that the coalition force aircraft would be shot down.¹⁴¹
- A photo report about a teacher-training course in the city of Raqqa,¹⁴² and about the activities of bakeries, street vendors, and market places during the month of Ramadan.¹⁴³

The Islamic State – Al-Khayr Province

- The Islamic State in Al-Khayr Province (formerly Dayr Al-Zawr Province) published the following:
 - A video titled “In Place of Fear they will be Given Security 2”, depicting the Islamic State as a body that worries about the security and welfare of the civilians in the province. The video featured among other things interviews with a shepherd, with truck drivers, and with store owners, who all related that the Islamic States protected the money of the civilians, and that thanks to the Islamic Police, the level of crime was very low in comparison to countries that were not ruled according to shari’a law. The video featured a religious figure from the Islamic State who explained that the *Hudud* penalties serve to increase security, and as evidence several examples were presented: cutting off the hand of a thief and the execution of a man accused of “spreading corruption throughout the land.”¹⁴⁴

¹⁴¹ <https://isdarat.xyz/16148> (Arabic).

¹⁴² <https://isdarat.xyz/16637> (Arabic).

¹⁴³ <https://isdarat.xyz/16448> (Arabic).

¹⁴⁴ <https://isdarat.xyz/16714> (Arabic).

- A video about the activities of the Islamic State “Office of Inspection and Supervision” in the province. The video revealed that this body, which is responsible for protecting consumers – carried out daily patrols with the purpose of locating merchandise being sold after its expiration date, and inspected slaughter houses and meat products that might harbor disease.¹⁴⁵
- A photo report about the execution of Sahawat fighters,¹⁴⁶ and a man accused of engaging in sodomy.¹⁴⁷
- Photo reports and videos about various civilian topics, such as: studying the Quran and other activities in the mosques during Ramadan,¹⁴⁸ the final exam in a course on shari’a for defectors from the Syrian Army who “repented”,¹⁴⁹ a factory that manufactures blocks of ice,¹⁵⁰ preparation of beverages,¹⁵¹ stores that sold spices,¹⁵² a “fun day” for families on the banks of the Euphrates River,¹⁵³ opening a new slaughterhouse,¹⁵⁴ and reconciliation between two branches of the Abu Hardub tribe.¹⁵⁵

Lebanon

- An Islamic State fighter named Abu al-Ahnaf al-Shibani published a message on social media networks, calling upon Muslim Sunnis living in Lebanon to spill the blood of Christian and Shi’ite civilians in that country, and to steal their property. According to al-Shibani, taking their blood and property was permissible because they persecuted the Sunnis. In his words, “Take revenge for the sake of Islam and the Muslims of Tripoli...you must slaughter every male or female Christian you can and kill them, taking revenge for Muslims, [by means of] you roadside bombs...your machine guns...your pistols...your knives...use anything. Enter their homes, their stores, their churches...and take revenge for our brothers who unify God [who are sitting in

¹⁴⁵ <https://isdarat.xyz/16170> (Arabic).

¹⁴⁶ <https://isdarat.xyz/16407> (Arabic).

¹⁴⁷ <https://isdarat.xyz/16440> (Arabic).

¹⁴⁸ <https://isdarat.xyz/16647>; <https://isdarat.xyz/16424> (Arabic).

¹⁴⁹ <https://isdarat.xyz/16552> (Arabic).

¹⁵⁰ <https://isdarat.xyz/16649> (Arabic).

¹⁵¹ <https://isdarat.xyz/16551> (Arabic).

¹⁵² <https://isdarat.xyz/16550> (Arabic).

¹⁵³ <https://isdarat.xyz/16441> (Arabic).

¹⁵⁴ <https://isdarat.xyz/16532> (Arabic).

¹⁵⁵ <https://isdarat.xyz/16438> (Arabic).

prison] Rumiye...” He included, for example, nightclubs or factories as targets for attacks if Christians and Shi’ites are found there.¹⁵⁶



A banner uploaded to the social networks titled “A Message to the Sunnis in Lebanon”

- In his Twitter account, Sheikh Siraj al-Din, spokesman for the Abdallah Azzam Brigades, accused the Lebanese Hezbollah and the Lebanese Interior Security authorities of torturing Sunni prisoners in the Rumiye prison. According to al-Din, the trend of persecuting the Sunnis in Lebanon had been going on for a long time, and therefore a Sunni Intifada in Lebanon was required against the oppressive system.¹⁵⁷
- Sheikh Ahmad al-Asir al-Husayni, a Salafi jihad leader in Lebanon, noted in an audio recording that the Sunnis in Lebanon suffered from persecution and oppression by the government. He also discussed the severe torture experienced by the Sunni prisoners in the Rumiye prison, carried out by the security authorities who were, according to al-Husayni, subordinate to Hezbollah. In light of that, al-Husayni called upon the Sunnis in the country to pull themselves together and defend their honor, and to assist their brothers in the prisons.¹⁵⁸

The Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip

The Egyptian Army continued its activities in Sinai Province against the Islamic State. On June 23, the Egyptian security forces killed about 16 people near the Sheikh Zuweid mosque. The victims were suspected of planning attacks against Army roadblocks.¹⁵⁹

The Islamic State in Sinai Province also continued its activities against the Egyptian security forces. On June 20, province fighters targeted and killed the Egyptian public prosecutor, Hisham Barakat, who directed the sanctions implemented against supporters of the Islamic State. The attack took

¹⁵⁶ <https://justpaste.it/resalahlebaon> (Arabic).

¹⁵⁷ <http://justpaste.it/lnd1> (Arabic).

¹⁵⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpT2Lpb86No> (Arabic).

¹⁵⁹ <http://goo.gl/QeR9n1> (Arabic).

place on the anniversary of protests against Mohammed Morsi, and signified a step up in the scope of terror attacks against Egyptian forces.¹⁶⁰ In addition, clashes with the Egyptian security forces continued. On June 22, two adjacent homes belonging to the El-Arish Police were rigged with explosives. In the attack, which was carried out by the Sinai Province IS fighters, at least eight police and civilians were injured.¹⁶¹

On June 16, the death penalty was handed down to former Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi, and to about 90 members of the Islamic Brotherhood. As a result, human rights activists accused the Egyptian judicial system of broadening its use of the death penalty, and called for a reversal of that trend.¹⁶²

The Islamic State – Sinai Province

- The Islamic State in Sinai Province published the following:
 - A video titled “The Fragrance of Life” in which one of the organization’s spokesmen – Abu al-Qaqa’a al-Mahjir – was interviewed before going to carry out a suicide attack against Egyptian security forces. According to al-Mahjir, fulfilling the commandments of jihad against the Egyptian regime and its security forces was mandatory for every Muslim. Later he threatened that the organization also planned to attack Jews living in Israeli territory.¹⁶³
 - A report summarizing the organization’s military activities during the months of May and June 2015.¹⁶⁴
 - A video titled “Killing Judges”. The video justified attacking Egyptian judges since they were an army of the Egyptian regime, which sanctified war against jihad fighters. Later in the video, the elimination of five Egyptian judges was documented.¹⁶⁵

¹⁶⁰ <http://goo.gl/CCqs6x> (Arabic).

¹⁶¹ <http://goo.gl/OmjrXb> (Arabic).

¹⁶² <http://goo.gl/TKKF8k> (Arabic).

¹⁶³ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁶⁴ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁶⁵ <https://archive.org/details/Tasfia> (Arabic).

The Sheikh Umar Hadid Battalion in Jerusalem

- The Sariyyat al-Sheikh Umar Hadid Bayt al-Maqdis – the Sheikh Umar Hadid Battalion in Jerusalem, a Salafi jihadist organization in the Gaza Strip, published the following:
 - A proclamation claiming responsibility for shooting Katyusha rockets at the southern part of the city of Ashkelon on June 24, 2015.¹⁶⁶

Africa

The Maghreb

Fighting continued in different parts of Libya, both in the eastern and western regions. In the east, it was reported that dozens of Kiftar's soldiers were killed in Benghazi and Derna,¹⁶⁷ and in the west it was reported that an unidentified aircraft attacked IS targets in the city of Sirte.¹⁶⁸ The intensification of the clashes lead to a worsening of the humanitarian situation in the country. According to a report published by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) about refugees, the number of displaced persons in Libya stood at over 434,000 people – twice as many as the number reported last September.¹⁶⁹

Even before the attack in the city of Sousse, which occurred on June 26, Tunisia increased its security on the Libyan border.¹⁷⁰ Another step demonstrating that the Tunisian authorities internalized the hidden danger in Libya, was the closure of the Tunisian consulate in Tripoli, and a general call to Tunisia citizens to return to their country.¹⁷¹ But despite the measures of caution and the increased security, the most deadly attack to ever take place in Tunisian territory was carried out by a terrorist armed with a Kalashnikov rifle murdered 38 people at the tourist compound in the city of Sousse.¹⁷² In light of the situation in Libya and Tunisia, the authorities in Morocco and Algeria continued the war against terror in their regions. In Morocco, a raised level of alert was reported as well as

¹⁶⁶ <http://justpaste.it/j3asqlan> (Arabic).

¹⁶⁷ <http://goo.gl/LpWr9Z>; <http://goo.gl/JKs8AO> (Arabic).

¹⁶⁸ <http://goo.gl/3iUq96> (Arabic).

¹⁶⁹ <http://goo.gl/3iUq96> (Arabic).

¹⁷⁰ <https://goo.gl/yjCAGq> (Arabic).

¹⁷¹ <http://arabic.cnn.com/middleeast/2015/06/19/tunisia-libya-abduction-diplomats> (Arabic).

¹⁷² <http://goo.gl/adRTLZ> (Arabic).

surveillance of suspects,¹⁷³ and in Algeria it was reported that twelve thousand soldiers had been deployed along the Tunisian border.¹⁷⁴

Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb

- The Al-Andalus media institution, operating on behalf of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb published the following:
 - An expression of solidarity with the residents of the city of Ajdabiya in Libya, as a result of the city being bombed by American aircraft. According to the organization, the bombing was further proof that the United States and its allies sanctified war against Muslims and the religion of Islam, and were interested in weakening them both. In light of that, the organization expressed its support of the mujahideen in Libya and encouraged them to continue their activities against American aggression. In conclusion, the organization emphasized that America’s hostilities against the Muslims only strengthened the mujahideen and ignited the flames of jihad.¹⁷⁵
 - A denial of reports about the death of Sheikh Mokhtar Belmokhtar, leader of the Al-Murabitoun organization, in eastern Libya in an American airstrike. In the statement, it was announced that Belmokhtar “is still alive and breathing”, and accusations were made that innocent people were killed in the attack.¹⁷⁶ The Al-Murabitoun organization, a Salafi jihad organization in Mali, also proclaimed that the announcement was fraudulent.¹⁷⁷
 - Recorded audio lectures (parts 12 – 16) by Sheikh Abu al-Hassan al-Rashid Bulaydi, a senior member of the organization’s Shura Council. The audio recordings were published in the framework of a series of lectures called “Battle of Uhud in the Quran”, and included an analysis of the historical battle from a religious perspective.¹⁷⁸

¹⁷³ <http://www.hespress.com/medias/268480.html> (Arabic).

¹⁷⁴ <http://goo.gl/ujyKdc> (Arabic).

¹⁷⁵ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁷⁶ <http://goo.gl/9yxNO7> (Arabic).

¹⁷⁷ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁷⁸ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

- A video in English called “The Journey to a Meeting with Two Captives – Johan Gustofsson from Copenhagen and Stephen McGowan from South Africa”. The video included a meeting between Al-Qaeda fighters in the Islamic Maghreb and the two Western captives who were kidnapped by the organization in Mali. At the beginning of the video, one of the fighters states that the Sahara is the largest jail where the organizations is holding captives. Later in the video, one of the fighters tells the two captives that the negotiation process for their release was in a lurch, and they would only be released if their governments responded positively to the organization’s demands. In addition, the two captive addressed their families and thanked their governments for the efforts made to facilitate their release.¹⁷⁹



A frame from the video in which a fighter meets with two Western captives, and explains to them the demands his organization has made of their governments in exchange for their release.

Libya

Ansar Al-Sharia

- The Al-Raya media institution, belonging to Ansar Al-Sharia organization, published the following:
 - A proclamation including a eulogy for seven fighters killed in a “Crusader attack” on Ajdabiya. It should be noted that the name of Mokhtar Belmokhtar did not appear on the list of those killed, while according to several other reports he was also killed in this attack in eastern Libya.¹⁸⁰

¹⁷⁹ https://ia801505.us.archive.org/10/items/Trip_AQIM/ (English audio/Arabic subtitles).

¹⁸⁰ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic); <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-33129838> (English).

- A photo report about vehicles and weapons (such as machine guns and RPGs) that were taken as booty by the organization after clashes with General Kalifa Hiftar’s forces.¹⁸¹
- A photo report about civilian matters, such as: preparation of food to break the fast and distributing it to pedestrians by fighters in Derna and Benghazi, and the distribution of food to needy by the Supply Center, belonging to the organization's Economy Administration in the organization’s public services office.¹⁸²

The Mujahideen Shura Council in Derna

- The Mujahideen Shura Council in Derna published a proclamation titled “Why we Fought the Islamic State and Why we Expelled Their Fighters from the City”. In the proclamation, the council accuses the Islamic State of false jihad that indiscriminately harms innocent Muslims, and of stealing money belonging to the country coffers – about four million dollars. In light of these crimes, the council explained that it had decided to fight against the Islamic State fighters and oust them from Derna.¹⁸³

The Islamic State

- A poster on the Shumukh Al-Islam forum published a proclamation about the “Shura Council of Derna Youth”, in which he attacked the group, claiming that its leaders identified with Fajr Libya - Libya Dawn, and that the group did not enforce sharia law.¹⁸⁴ Another poster on the forum also uploaded a post against the group, and claimed that it went hand in hand with General Kalifa Hiftar against the Islamic State fighters.¹⁸⁵
- A writer named Abu Bakr al-Barqawi published through the Al-Battar media institution and the Media Front for Support of the Islamic State an article titled “A Caliphate and Sahawat State in Libya”. In the article, he attacked the “Supreme Security Committee”, a body established after the fall of Gaddafi as an alternative to the police, with the goals of: uniting the rebels, controlling weapons distribution, and preventing the development of armed jihad groups. The

¹⁸¹ <https://dump.to/cr4> (Arabic).

¹⁸² <https://dump.to/cwG>; <https://dump.to/ctg>; <https://dump.to/cjv> (Arabic).

¹⁸³ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁸⁴ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁸⁵ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

writer explained that a number of groups – such as the Abu Salim Martyrs Brigade – fell into a trap and joined the Supreme Security Committee, and therefore became Sahawat (a Sunni group that sides with the government against the mujahideen). The author of the article warned others of falling into the same trap and encouraged the mujahideen in Libya to pledge allegiance to the Islamic State.¹⁸⁶

The Islamic State - Tripoli Province

- The Islamic State in Tripoli Province published the following:¹⁸⁷
 - A series of photographs documenting the organization’s soldiers stationed on the streets of the city of Sirte, and clashes between them and General Hiftar’s forces.¹⁸⁸



IS soldiers patrolling the streets of Sirte

The Islamic State - Barqa Province

- The Islamic State in Barqa Province published the following:
 - A video about an attack on army posts near Lamluda, a town in eastern Libya. The video documented fighters storming army posts (with light weapons), bodies of the dead, and images of booty seized – including weapons, ammunition, and several vehicles. The video ended with a “victory parade” through the town streets, with a headless body of one of the killed soldiers borne on one of the confiscated jeeps. Members of the local population were filmed spitting on the body.¹⁸⁹

¹⁸⁶ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁸⁷ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁸⁸ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

¹⁸⁹ <https://videopress.com/v/tkConbEq> (Arabic).

- A photo report about various subjects: The Ribat [a small fortification of defense built along a frontier] of the Caliphate soldiers in the city of Benghazi (IS soldiers are featured armed with light and medium weapons, defending their positions),¹⁹⁰ an attack against Kiftar's forces in the area of Buatni in Benghazi,¹⁹¹ and training a new class of fighters in the city Nofaliya.¹⁹²

The Islamic State in Tripoli Province

- The Islamic State in Tripoli Province published the following:
 - A photo report about the following activities in the city of Sirte: decorating the entrance to the city with Caliphate flags,¹⁹³ a tour of the Ibn Sina Hospital and a factory that manufactured bricks,¹⁹⁴ and distribution of Dawa flies in the city.¹⁹⁵

Tunisia

The Islamic State

- On June 26, an armed fighter named Seifeddine Rezgui, known as Abu Yahya al_Qayrawani, opened fire with a Kalashnikov rifle on tourists on a beach at the Sousse city hotel compound. In the attack, 38 people were killed and dozens were injured. In the statement claiming responsibility for the attack, the Islamic State described the Sousse beach as “an immoral hotbed of prostitution and abomination”, and explained that the attack on the tourists was justified because they were citizens of the coalition countries that attacked the Islamic State. Even though the Islamic State also claimed responsibility, it was suspected that Ansar Al-Sharia was also involved in the attack.¹⁹⁶

¹⁹⁰ http://i-libya.blogspot.com/2015/06/blog-post_55.html (Arabic).

¹⁹¹ https://twitter.com/islam_win/status/614211575201710080 (Arabic).

¹⁹² http://i-libya.blogspot.com/2015/06/blog-post_26.html (Arabic).

¹⁹³ https://twitter.com/ISIS_25M/status/615849878627987456 (Arabic).

¹⁹⁴ http://i-libya.blogspot.com/2015/06/blog-post_17.html;

https://twitter.com/isis_isis96/status/615268679618400256/ (Arabic).

¹⁹⁵ https://twitter.com/HG_14/status/615637924797915137 (Arabic).

¹⁹⁶ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/>; <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).



The Islamic State claiming responsibility for the attack in Sousse

- A female poster on the jihad forum Shumukh Al-Islam (based upon her nickname, it may be that she is Tunisian) published an article titled “The Blessed Friday Attack” about the attack on the Sousse beach. In the course of the article, the poster praised the man who carried out the attack, Seifeddine Rezgui, while describing him as a hero who gave up the pleasures of this world in order to fight against apostates, was even successful in his efforts despite all of the security supplied by the Tawaghit tyrants. The poster reported on the results of the attack on three levels: at a social level – the fact that Rezgui avoided harming Tunisians strengthened local support for jihad, at an economic level – the attack caused excessive damage to the tourism industry, and at a media level – the attack humiliated the media and politicians. After criticizing the Tunisian authorities, the writer offered several suggestions to the fighters in Tunisia, and called upon them to be careful and take cautionary measures (specifically with regard to use of social media sites and mobile phones). The article concluded with encouragement for new lone attackers to go out and take action.¹⁹⁷
- The Islamic State claimed responsibility for an attack on the Sidi Bousid Governate, in which three members of the National Guard were killed. In a statement published on Twitter it was announced that two armed Islamic State fighters attacked two military centers in Sidi Bousid

¹⁹⁷ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

with light weapons. The Tunisian Minister of Interior reported that one of the armed attackers was killed, and the other was arrested and was severely injured.¹⁹⁸

Nigeria

The Islamic State in West Africa Boko Haram

- The Islamic State in West Africa (formerly Boko Haram) published a video titled "Aspects of the Battles in the West Africa Province".¹⁹⁹

Somalia

In the second half of June, with the beginning of the month of Ramadan, there was an increase in attacks carried out by Al-Shabaab Al-Mujahideen against the Somolian government and security forces, in keeping with a promise made by the organization.²⁰⁰ The attacks took place mainly in the area around Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia. In the framework of the attacks, Al-Shabaab fighters attacked a police station south of Mogadishu and killed 8 police officers.²⁰¹ They also attacked a training base for intelligence forces.²⁰² In addition, the organization attacked a vehicle²⁰³ and a base belonging to the African Union forces operating in the country.²⁰⁴

Al-Sahbaab al-Mujahideen Movement

- The Al-Kataib media institution, affiliated with Al-Sahbaab Al-Mujahideen movement, published the following:
 - A claim of responsibility for a successful ambush carried out by fighters from the organization against a convoy of Ethiopian Army soldiers, on June 11, 2015, on the way to Mogadishu-Baidoa. As a result of the ambush, 60 Ethiopian soldiers were murdered.

¹⁹⁸ <http://goo.gl/hpVut9> (Arabic).

¹⁹⁹ <https://archive.org/details/SarM3arek> (Arabic).

²⁰⁰ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/deaths-reported-car-bomb-hits-somalia-150624110319517.html> (English).

²⁰¹ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/al-shabab-fighters-kill-police-officers-somalia-150620083855391.html> (English).

²⁰² <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/al-shabab-kills-raid-mogadishu-army-base-150621051813728.html> (English).

²⁰³ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-33257724> (English).

²⁰⁴ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/06/al-shabab-claims-attack-au-base-somalia-150626094327750.html> (English).

The day after the attack another convoy of Ethiopian soldiers arrived at the attack site to help their friends, but that convoy was also attacked by a suicide bomber. As a result, the convoy was stopped and its vehicles were destroyed. It was also written that the mujahideen would act with determination against the conquerors of Muslim land, and would work to spread the light of Allah until all Muslim lands were liberated from the control of apostates.²⁰⁵



From left to right: Booty seized by Al-Shabaab Al-Mujahideen, and a photograph of an Ethiopian soldier after the attack on the convoy of Ethiopian soldiers

- A claim of responsibility for penetration of organization fighters into an army base in the village of Lego in the Lower Shabelle Province, and for killing 80 Burundi soldiers, on June 26, 2015. In accordance with the announcement, it was written that the attack was carried out as revenge for insulting the honor of the Prophet Muhammed by Burandi, and by its patron, France.²⁰⁶
- The jihad news agency Shaada, that focuses on coverage of news related to the Al-Shabaab Al-Mujahideen movement, reported that the latter had executed three spies operating on behalf of the American intelligence services, in the city of Saakow in the Middle Juba region, south of Somalia.²⁰⁷

The Indian Sub-continent

Al Qaeda in the Indian Sub-continent

²⁰⁵ <https://shamikh1.info/vb/> (Arabic).

²⁰⁶ <https://www.alfidaa.info/vb/> (Arabic).

²⁰⁷ <https://dump.to/cAd> (Arabic).

- Al Qaeda in the Indian Sub-continent (AQIS) announced that two Western captives – Warren Weinstein (an American) and Giovanni Lo Porto – had converted to Islam before they were killed in an American drone strike in January 2015.²⁰⁸
- The Global Islamic Media Front published an English translation of a video published by the Titumir media institution in Bengalese, titled “You have Tranquillized the Heart of the Believers”. The video deals with the murder of atheist bloggers in Banladesh who, according to the media institution, were killed because they wrote posts that insulted the Prophet Mohammad.²⁰⁹



The video banner

²⁰⁸ <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/> (Arabic).

²⁰⁹ <https://archive.org/details/Tranquillized> (Arabic).

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Founded in 1996, the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) is one of the leading academic institutes for counter-terrorism in the world, facilitating international cooperation in the global struggle against terrorism. ICT is an independent think tank providing expertise in terrorism, counter-terrorism, homeland security, threat vulnerability and risk assessment, intelligence analysis and national security and defense policy. ICT is a non-profit organization located at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC), Herzliya, Israel which relies exclusively on private donations and revenue from events, projects and programs.

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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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