

Bimonthly Report

Summary of Information on Jihadist Websites

The Second Half of June 2014

Highlights

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

- The Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham changes its name to the “Islamic State” and declares the establishment of an Islamic Caliphate headed by Sheikh Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The spokesman for the organization, Sheikh al-Adnani, announces that this is the fulfillment of a dream heralding the establishment of a new Islamic order in the region, in the framework of which the nation-states, as outlined in the Sykes-Picot Agreement (1917), will begin to collapse.
- The establishment of the Islamic Caliphate draws much support on social networks and among many jihadist circles. Many jihad fighters around the world, such as the Abu Sayyaf group in the Philippines, swear allegiance to the Islamic State and to Sheikh Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.
- Islamic State militants seize control over a significant part of Nineveh Province and Mosul in Iraq, and collapse the border between Syria and Iraq.
- The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan claims responsibility for an attack that was carried out at the Karachi Airport in Pakistan on June 9, 2014. According to the leader of the organization, the target of the attack was the military headquarters responsible for drones. In addition, the organization calls on all Muslims in Pakistan to wage jihad against the Pakistani government and the Pakistani army.
- The release of Sheikh Abu Mohammed al-Maqdisi, a senior leader of the Salafi-jihadist movement in Jordan, from a Jordanian prison, is applauded by jihad fighters.
- Siraj al-Din Zurayqat, a member of the Abdullah Azzam Brigades, threatens to attack Hezbollah if it does not cease to serve Iranian interests in Lebanon. In addition, he calls on Sunni soldiers in the Lebanese army to defect and defend Sunnis in the country.

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New Publications

Ideology

- The Al-Hayat jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with the Islamic State, published a video in English titled, “There is no Life without Jihad”. In the video, which was designed for recruitment purposes, three foreign fighters from the Islamic State (one from Scotland and two from Wales) called on Muslims to join the war of jihad against the infidels.¹



Three British Islamic State militants calling on Muslims to fulfill the commandment of jihad

- The Al-Battat jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with the Islamic State, published an article titled, “The Islamic State and the Propaganda War” by a prominent writer on the Al-Fida jihadist Web forum, Ahman al-Nasr. The author expressed distress over the false propaganda campaign being waged by enemies of Islam against the Islamic State. In light of this, the author called on supporters of the organization to help distribute the organization’s PR materials and increase their circulation.²
- The Al-Qadisiyya jihadist media institution published a video, translated into Bengali, titled “Inspire the Believers” by Sheikh Abdullah al-Rashoud, a senior leader of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) who was killed in 2005. In the video, al-Rashoud called on Muslims to fulfill the commandment of jihad and help the mujahideen.³

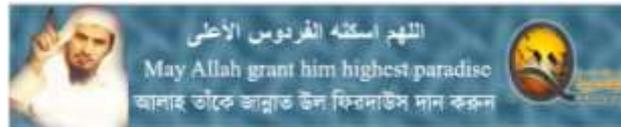
It seems that the timing of the video’s publication was connected to the Islamic State’s successful defeat of Iraqi army forces in Nineveh Province, Iraq, in June 2014 and its takeover of

¹ <https://twitter.com/alhayaten/status/479655169953923072>

² <http://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

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

large sections of the province. There was also a significant desire to focus efforts on recruiting fighters from Bangladesh to join jihad in Iraq.



The video banner

Al-Qaeda's Internal Rift

- The administrator of the Al-Platform Media jihadist Web forum called on Sheikh Abu Mohammed al-Maqdisi to retract the position that he took towards the Islamic State. He noted that al-Maqdisi's view of events from prison did provide a full picture of the reality and did not allow for a reliable assessment. As a reminder, al-Maqdisi published a letter in which he strongly condemned the Islamic State and called on its leaders to return to Iraq; al-Maqdisi was recently released from prison and may reconsider his position vis-à-vis the organization.⁴

Strategy

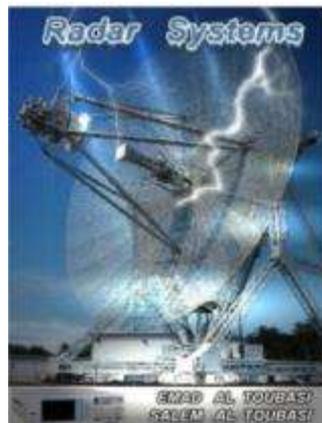
- A visitor to the Hanein jihadist Web forum published several tips for Islamic State militants ahead of the battle for Baghdad. The visitor discussed the various difficulties facing the militants regarding a takeover of Baghdad, including the large Shi'ite presence (both military and civilian) and the departure of some Sunni residents from the capital city. The visitor called on the Islamic State not to go out into battle alone but rather to join forces with Jaish al-Mujahideen and Ansar al-Islam. The visitor explained that these two organizations have a strong presence in Baghdad, which would enable assassinations of government officials and the detonation of explosive devices within the city, in coordination with Islamic State forces that would arrive from outside the city.⁵

Guidebooks and Instruction Pamphlets

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

⁵ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum, named Irhabi 001, published a collection of guidebooks in English and Arabic on radar systems, their methods of operation, ways to counter radar systems, ways to disrupt fighter jet radar systems, and more.⁶



The banner of one of the guidebooks on the topic of radar systems

- A visitor to the Al-Fidaa jihadist Web forum published an explanation on how to avoid drone attacks.⁷



The banner of a guidebook explaining how to avoid drone attacks

- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum published a collection of guidebooks on assembling explosives.⁸

⁶ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁷ <http://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum published a video that explained how to assemble silencers for various weapons.⁹



A clip from the video

- The ninth part of the “Jihadist Encyclopedia” was published, which included: a document on the subject of security and intelligence, the second part of an elementary course on military tactics, and articles regarding various religious issues.¹⁰ Later, the tenth part of the encyclopedia was published, which included follow-up articles.¹¹

Promoting the Myth of the Martyr

- The jihadist media institution of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, Al-Malahem, published the second part of a video titled, “The Journey of Jihad”, which documented the biography of Sheikh Said Ali al-Shihri, the former deputy leader of AQAP who was killed by an American drone during the second half of 2013.¹²



From left to right: the video introduction; the video banner that was posted to jihadist Web forums

⁸ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

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

¹⁰ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

¹¹ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

¹² <http://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

Al-Malahem also published the biography (no. 16) of a member of AQAP named Abu Yusuf Ali Muhammad Sufyan al-Amari. The biography was published in the framework of a series of publications titled, “The Martyrs of the Arabian Peninsula”.¹³



A photo of the martyr, al-Amari

- The Ibn Taymiyyah jihadist media institution published a video titled, “Guardians of the Prophet Mohammad's Ascension to Heaven: Part 3”. The video was made in memory of three Salafi-jihadist fighters in the Gaza Strip and reviewed their lives. The three men were killed by Israel Air Force fire as they tried to launch rockets at Israel. The names of the three terrorists were: Abu Usama Muhammad Shukri Hijazi, Abu Sayf Muhammad Hisham Zakut and Abu Salah Marwan Farj Al-Jarba. The video was interlaced with words of praise for the high status of a martyr in Islam, as spoken by Khalid Abd al-Rahman al-Husainan, a member of the Shura Council of Al-Qaeda who was killed at the end of 2011 by American drone fire in Waziristan.¹⁴



The video banner

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

¹⁴ <http://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

- The Islamic State in Baghdad published a eulogy in memory of one of its martyrs, Abu Qudama al-Libi. The martyr’s last will and testament was also published.¹⁵



A photo of the martyr

Magazines

- The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan published new issues of its jihadist magazines in Arabic, English and Urdu, all of which deal with the arena of jihad in Afghanistan: Issue no. 65 of *In Fight* magazine,¹⁶ and issue no. 98 (44 pp.) of *Al-Somood* magazine for June 2014.¹⁷



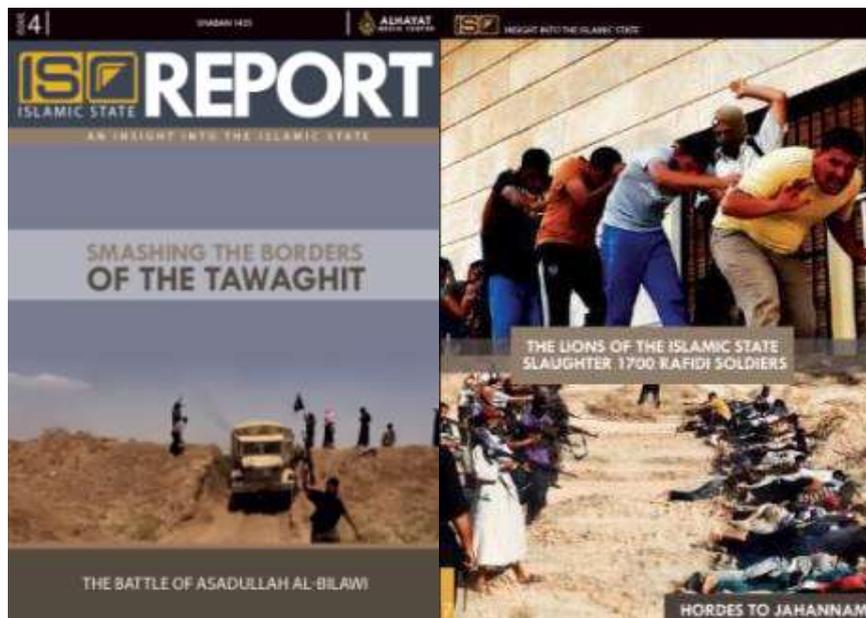
From left to right: the banners of *In Flight* and *Al-Somood* jihadist magazines

¹⁵ https://twitter.com/Doula_News

¹⁶ [http://www.jhuf.net/showthread.php?21882-Islami-Emirate-Afghanistan-IN-FIGHT-65-\(05-2014\)](http://www.jhuf.net/showthread.php?21882-Islami-Emirate-Afghanistan-IN-FIGHT-65-(05-2014))

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

- The Al-Hayyat jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with the Islamic State, published the fourth issue (8 pp.) of the *Islamic State Report* jihadist magazine in English and German. The current issue described the destruction of the border between Iraq and Syria as well as the execution of 1,700 Shi'ite soldiers in the Iraqi army.¹⁸



The banner and an inner page of the issue documenting the execution of Shi'ite soldiers by members of the Islamic State

- Issue no. 10 of the jihadist magazine, *Hasad al-Jihad*, was published. The current issue dealt with the arena of jihad in Egypt and terrorist attacks that Salafi-jihadist organizations carried out in the Sinai Peninsula and Egypt against Egyptian security forces.¹⁹

Reports from the Field

Afghanistan-Pakistan

In the Afghani arena, the atmosphere was tense following the presidential elections but no significant attacks were carried out recently by terrorist groups. On June 23, 2014 the Taliban released 33 lecturers and students who were held captive for two weeks after being kidnapped in eastern Afghanistan. The Deputy Governor of Ghazni Province said that the captives were released

¹⁸ <https://twitter.com/alhayaten/status/480287664214904832>

¹⁹ <http://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

at night following mediation by tribal elders in the region.²⁰

In Pakistan, on the other hand, violent clashes and attacks by the Taliban and security forces were recorded. On June 16, 2014 five Pakistani soldiers were killed when a roadside charge exploded on their convoy in northern Waziristan. According to Pakistani intelligence sources, an improvised explosive charge was used in the attack.²¹ On June 28, 2014 the Pakistani Air Force attacked targets in northwest Pakistan and in Waziristan, in which 17 militants who were hiding there were killed.²²

The Islamic Emirate in Afghanistan

- The Shura Council of the Islamic Emirate in Afghanistan published a statement regarding the elections in the country. According to the statement, on June 14, 2014 enemies of Islam again tried to hold democratic elections in Afghanistan in order to enable them to continue stealing the country from Islam and Muslims. However, the Afghan people, with help from the Islamic Emirate's jihad forces, buried the hopes of the infidels and showed that they would not allow such elections to take place in the country. Not only did the Afghan people not take part in the elections, they even fought shoulder to shoulder with the mujahideen against the elections, and participated in the jihad effort, which included hundreds of attacks on locations where elections were being held. For that, the Shura Council of the Islamic Emirates thanked the Afghan people as well as the organization's fighters who managed to thwart an act of heresy.²³

The Taliban in Pakistan

- During the second half of June 2014, the jihadist media institution, Umar, published the following:

²⁰<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2014/06/taliban-frees-university-staff-afghanistan-2014623892825771.html>

²¹<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/16/us-pakistan-airstrikes-convoy-idUSKBN0ER10Z20140616>
(English).

²²<http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/asia/2014/06/28/Pakistani-jets-kill-17-in-anti-militant-offensive.html>
(English).

²³<http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

- An announcement titled, “The final end to the period of negotiations due to the betrayal and crimes of the Pakistani regime, and a declaration of jihad against [the regime] as retaliation on behalf of oppressed Muslims”.²⁴
- An announcement signed by the spokesman of the organization, Shahidullah Shahid, in which he stated that since Pakistan is currently in a state of war, it is incumbent on foreign investors, airline companies and international organizations to stop their activities in Pakistan and leave the country immediately, otherwise they will bear responsibility for their own fate.²⁵

The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan

- The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan published an announcement in which it claimed responsibility for an attack that was carried out at the Karachi Airport on June 9, 2014. At least 30 people were killed in the attack, in which ten suicide terrorists took part. In the announcement, the emir of the organization, Osman Ghazi, emphasized that the target of the attack was the military headquarters responsible for drones, and that claims that the attack was an attempt to harm civilians at the airport was an attempt by the Pakistani government to distort reality. In addition, Ghazi noted that the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan had many partners in jihad and called on each and every Muslim living in Pakistan to wage jihad against the Pakistani government and the “Infidel army”.²⁶

The Arabian Peninsula

Yemeni security forces were forced to fight simultaneously on two fronts - Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and Ansar Allah, the military wing of the Houthis (a Shi’ite minority in Yemen that is supported by Iran), which has accelerated the disintegration of state institutions and threatened to cause the country’s disintegration into absolute security chaos.

The second half of June was characterized by continued clashes between Al-Qaeda militants and Yemeni security forces. On June 23, 2014, for example, members of the organization burst into

²⁴ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

²⁵ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

²⁶ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

an army base and Seiyun Airport in Hadhrmawt Province, killing several soldiers.²⁷ In addition, it was reported that members of the organization had renewed assassination attempts on Yemeni security officers. For instance, a Yemeni intelligence officer survived an assassination attempt by Al-Qaeda militants in Al-Mukalla in Hadhrmawt Province.²⁸

Meanwhile, Yemeni security forces noted several achievements in the war against terrorism. For instance, they captured a senior commander in the organization named Abd al-Rahman Shuayb Muhjib (aka Abu Musa'b al-Hudaidi) in Al Hudayda Province in western Yemen.²⁹

In addition to these clashes, there was growing concern for the government's stability in Sana'a in light of the Houthis' advancement towards the capital following renewed clashes with Yemeni security forces. Since the beginning of February 2014, the two sides have been fighting one another in Amran, in northern Sana'a. On June 4, 2014 they agreed to a ceasefire but it did not last and collapsed.³⁰ The renewed battles drew harsh criticism from Sunni tribes towards the government with respect to the ceasefire agreement with the Houthis. Sheikh Abd al-Rahman Hazm al-Sar, a senior sheikh in Amran Province, called the ceasefire agreement "a betrayal of the blood of the martyrs and of the people of Amran by armed security forces. [This agreement] constitutes the handover of the entire country to the Houthis and their militias".³¹

These events herald the Yemeni central government's loss of control and the deterioration of the security situation in the country into chaos. Therefore, there was dual concern over the strengthening of Al-Qaeda's power and the possible expansion of Houthi influence in the region.

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula

- The jihadist media institution of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), Al-Malahem, published the seventh video in a series of dawah publications titled, "Together with the Quran"

²⁷ <http://www.emaratalyoum.com/politics/issues/yemen-latest/2014-06-27-1.689379;>

<http://www.raya.com/news/pages/9c42d030-cd32-4031-92d8-a611bbf3dc2c>

²⁸ <http://www.almashhad-alyemeni.com/news38258.html>

²⁹ <http://www.alaraby.co.uk/politics/82a4ffba-211e-45e4-890c-9f0a02cf9212;>

<http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/arab-and-world/2014/06/18/القبض-على-قائد-تنظيم-القاعدة-في-الحديدة-غرب-اليمن-.html> (Arabic).

³⁰ <http://alhayat.com/Articles/3145492/اليمن-تجدد-مسلسل-الاغتيالات---وتصاعد-المواجهات-بين-الجيش-و-القاعدة>

<http://www.middle-east-online.com/?id=179493>

³¹ <http://www.aljazeera.net/news/reportsandinterviews/2014/6/24/تشكيك-يمنى-في-نجاح-الهدنة-مع-الحوثيين>

by Sheikh Harith bin Ghazi al-Nadhari, a senior member of the organization.³²

Iraq

During the second half of June, the Islamic State group recorded additional achievements in Iraq. On June 21, the IS was part of a group of organizations that seized control of the city of Qa'im, which lies near the border with Syria,³³ followed by the city of Rutba, near the border with Jordan, the next day.³⁴ With the Islamic State's seizure of the Waleed and Trebi border crossings, the group essentially gained control over all of the border crossings between Iraq, and Jordan and Syria.³⁵

In light of the Islamic State's strengthened position in the country, several countries have offered various forms of support to Iraq. Russia transferred the first shipment of five Sukhoi planes,³⁶ the United States announced that it would send 300 military advisors to Iraq,³⁷ and even Iran announced that it would contribute to the war effort in Iraq in the field of "civil defense and intelligence".³⁸

Meanwhile, the countries bordering Iraq began to raise their alert level and make additional preparations in order to defend themselves from the Islamic State threat. Jordan strengthened its security along the border with Iraq³⁹ and Saudi King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz ordered that the necessary steps be taken in order to defend the kingdom.⁴⁰

The increased fighting has led to a worsening of the humanitarian situation in Iraq. According to data provided by the Iraqi authorities, the advancement of the Islamic State caused over half a million Iraqi civilians to flee in the course of one week,⁴¹ and according to UN reports at least 1,075 people, mostly civilians, were killed in Iraq during the month of June. According to the

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

³³ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/multimedia/2014/06/140622_iraq-al_qaim.shtml (Arabic).

³⁴ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/06/140617_iraq_militants_seize_rutba.shtml (Arabic).

³⁵ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/06/140623_iraq_sunni_militants.shtml (Arabic).

³⁶ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/06/140620_iraq_obama_military_advisers.shtml (Arabic).

³⁷ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/multimedia/2014/06/140629_irak_russia_planes_clip.shtml (Arabic).

³⁸ <http://alarabalyawm.net/?p=315896>

³⁹ <http://www.dw.de/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B1%D8%AF%D9%86-%D9%8A%D8%B9%D8%B2%D8%B2-%D8%AF%D9%81%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%A7%D8%AA%D9%87-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AD%D8%AF%D9%88%D8%AF-%D9%85%D8%B9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%82/a-17729253>

⁴⁰ <http://arabic.euronews.com/2014/06/26/iraq-rapup-development-of-the-day>

⁴¹ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/multimedia/2014/06/140623_iraq_refugees_updates.shtml (Arabic).

report, the numbers include extrajudicial executions as well as the killing of soldiers and police officers who surrendered and relinquished their weapons.⁴²

The Islamic State (previously the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham)

- A visitor to the Hanein jihadist Web forum called on the Islamic State (IS) to adopt a sensible economic policy in managing the cities that it has conquered in Iraq. Among other things, the visitor advised the IS to lower the prices of basic goods, provide assistance to needy families, monitor the entry of goods and their prices and encourage local production, reduce consumption and demonstrate social solidarity. In addition, the visitor emphasized the importance of developing oil fields and natural minerals in order to increase the country's revenue.⁴³

The Declaration of the Islamic Caliphate

- The Al-Furqan jihadist media institution published an audio clip titled, "This is God's Promise" by Abu Muhammad al-Adnani al-Shami, spokesman for the Islamic State (previously the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham). Al-Adnani gave a long speech in which he praised the establishment of the Islamic Caliphate and emphasized that it was a historic moment of restoring dignity to the Muslim Nation and the fulfilment of a dream rooted in the heart of every Muslim believer. He noted that the authority of the caliphate now extends from Aleppo in Syria to Diyala in Iraq. According to him, the establishment of the Islamic Caliphate has erased the border between Syria and Iraq, and ended a murky chapter of Muslim history; namely, the collapse of the nation-state concept imported from the West and enforced on Muslim lands. Al-Adnani added that, after examining the circumstances, the Islamic State Council decided that all of the conditions were ripe for declaring an Islamic Caliphate and that the IS deserved to be considered the legitimate heir of the first Islamic government. Al-Adnani emphasized that, with the declaration of an Islamic Caliphate comes the obligation of every Muslim to swear allegiance to the caliphate and to the caliph who leads it, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. He explained that all lands

⁴² http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/06/140624_iraq_un_killing_june.shtml (Arabic).

⁴³ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

under the authority of the caliphate in Syria and Iraq must now adhere to the dictates of al-Baghdadi and accept the authority of the caliphate. Al-Adnani even changed the name of the “Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham” to the “Islamic State”.

Al-Adnani went on to note that the mujahideen’s victories in battle demonstrate the fulfillment of God’s promise that the Nation of Islam would return to power and defeat its enemies. In his opinion, the mutual assistance provided between the mujahideen and the Islamic State, and the obedience of the former to the IS, were among the main factors that contributed to these achievements.⁴⁴



The banner of al-Adnani’s speech

- The jihadist media institution of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham, Al-’Itisam, published a video titled, “Breaking the Borders”. The video discussed the release of the Syria-Iraq border from the hands of the Iraqi army and the elimination of the border between the two countries. In addition, the video included interviews with various militants in the organization regarding the event. For example, Sheikh al-Adnani, spokesman for the organization, noted that the elimination of the Iraq-Syria border heralded the destruction of the concept of a nation-state, a creation of the West.⁴⁵



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

⁴⁵ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

The video banner

- The Al-Hayyat jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with the Islamic State, published a video titled, “The End of [the] Sykes-Picot [Agreement]”. In the video, a foreign fighter from Chile who joined the IS described the elimination of the Iraq-Syria border, which was liberated by IS militants after they drove away Iraqi soldiers. The video was named after the Sykes-Picot Agreement, which outlined the division of the Middle East into nation-states according to an agreement signed by British Foreign Minister Sykes and French Foreign Minister Picot after the World War I (1917).⁴⁶



From left to right: the foreign fighter from Chile; the video banner

- The Al-Ghuraba jihadist media institution, which is affiliated with the Islamic State, published an article (25 pp.) titled, “God’s Promise” by Sheikh Abu Hamam Bakr Bin 'Abd al- 'Azīz al-Athari, a member of the IS. In the article, the writer focused on the reasons behind the establishment of the Islamic Caliphate and noted that its establishment was evidence of the fulfilment of God’s promise of Muslims’ victory over their enemies.⁴⁷

⁴⁶ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁴⁷ <http://justpaste.it/g02b>



The article banner

- The Al-Battar jihadist media institution published an article titled, “The Islamic State is Renewing the Glory of the Caliphate” by a writer known as Salah al-Din. In the article, the writer praised the renewal of the Islamic Caliphate and called on Sunnis in Iraq to fight against the Shi’ites in the country, and on Sunnis in Syria to fight against the Christians, the governing group in Syria.⁴⁸
- Husayn bin Mahmud, a prominent writer on jihadist Web forums, published a statement titled, “The Matter of the Caliphate”. According to him, the establishment of the caliphate was praiseworthy as it reflects a desire to properly maintain God’s religion. However, in order to bring this intention to fruition it is necessary to make sure that there is widespread support for this development as well as the existence of a territory that covers a very large area. Therefore, the declaration of a caliphate without these conditions being met is liable to continue causing a deep rift among the Muslim Nation and the weakening of Muslims.⁴⁹

Oath of Allegiance to the Islamic State

- A group of Al-Nusra Front militants in Al-Bukamal, a city in Syria close to the Iraqi border, declared their oath of allegiance to the Islamic State. The Twitter account of the IS in Homs Province published photos from a meeting between Abu Yusuf al-Misri and Abu Umar al-

⁴⁸ <http://justpaste.it/g0yy>

⁴⁹ <http://www.muslm.org/vb> (Arabic).

Shishani, a senior emir in the Islamic State, in which the former swore allegiance to the IS.⁵⁰ In addition, members of the Al-Nusra Front in Al-Bukamal published a manifesto in which they explained that their oath of allegiance to the IS was intended to unite the forces and prevent unnecessary bloodshed. The manifesto ended with a promise to residents of Al-Bukamal to maintain justice and improve security, and a call in the other factions to avoid war with the IS.⁵¹



An oath of allegiance by the Al-Nusra Front in Al-Bukamal to the Islamic State

- Sheikh Abu al-Baraa al-Shami, Emir of the Army of the Prophet's Companions in Greater Syria (Jaish al-Sahaba fi Bilad al-Sham), a jihadist faction operating in Syria, declared its oath of allegiance to the new Caliph, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. In the announcement, al-Shami explained that the faction he leads has long supported the Islamic State and even helped the organization, and that its abstention from making an open oath of allegiance until now stemmed from extenuating circumstances.⁵²
- The Jaysh Al-Sahaba organization in Syria published a statement regarding the Islamic State's declaration of the establishment of a caliphate, according to which Jaysh Al-Sahaba disbanded following the declaration and all of its members transferred their allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, leader of the IS.⁵³

⁵⁰ https://twitter.com/homs_isis/status/481694175004725248

⁵¹ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁵² <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

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



The logo of Jaysh Al-Sahaba

- The ISIS in Nineveh Province in Iraq published photos of a ceremony in which dozens of Ansar al-Islam members pledged allegiance to the Islamic State. During the event, one of the leaders of Ansar al-Islam gave a speech and everyone partook in a communal meal.⁵⁴



The ceremony in which dozens of Ansar al-Islam members pledged allegiance to the Islamic State

- An unknown jihadist media institution named Al-Khandaq published a video titled, “A Message to our Residents in Al-Sham” by Sheikh Abu Malik al-Tamimi, a member of Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan. In the video, al-Tamimi talked about how he came to Syria from Afghanistan in order to swear allegiance to the Islamic State and its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.⁵⁵ Al-Tamimi, originally from Saudi Arabia, fled his country for Afghanistan at the end of 2010, following the decision by the Saudi Ministry of Interior to publish a list of 47 wanted individuals and al-Tamimi’s name was third on the list.

⁵⁴ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁵⁵ https://twitter.com/Al_Khandaq. 24.6.14. <http://www.elaph.com/Web/News/2014/6/917066.html>

In a sense, al-Tamimi's departure from Al-Qaeda was a blow to Al-Qaeda's prestige and seemed to indicate the growing erosion of its power base, while demonstrating the strengthening of the Islamic State's power base.



Sheikh Abu Malik al-Tamimi

- Jama'at Abu Sayyaf, a Salafi-jihadist organization in the Philippines, expressed its support for the Islamic State.⁵⁶



The banner of Jama'at Abu Sayyaf's oath of allegiance

- The media institute of the Mujahideen of Eastern Indonesia (Timur), MIT Press, published an announcement and audio clip in which Sheikh Abu Wardah al-Sharqi, the leader of the organization, swore allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and the Islamic State.⁵⁷

⁵⁶ https://twitter.com/AL_Bttaar/status/481172484494856192

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



The banner of the Mujahideen of Eastern Indonesia (Timur)'s oath of allegiance

- The Shura Council of Muslim Youth (Majlis Shura Shaba al-Islam), an umbrella organization composed of several Salafi-jihadist militants in Libya, published an announcement of support for the Islamic State and its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.⁵⁸
- Sheikh Abu Abdallah Uthman al-Asimi, a kadi (religious court judge) in AQIM in the Al-Wasat region, expressed support for the Islamic State and praised its accomplishments in Iraq. According to him, Islamic State fighters are applying shari'a and implementing the principle of the oneness of Allah and, therefore, they should not be called Kharijites (the name given to an ancient cult that veered from orthodox Islam). Since then, the term has been used as a derogatory name for separatist groups in Islam who rebel against the existing order, causing civil wars and a rift among the Muslim Nation.⁵⁹
- An administrator of the Al-Platform Media jihadist Web forum published a video in which Pakistanis expressed their support for the Islamic State. The video was titled, "We Are Your Army in Pakistan".⁶⁰
- The Ibn Taymia Media Center, a jihadist media institution affiliated with the Mujahideen Shura Council in the Environs of Jerusalem operating in the Sinai Peninsula and Gaza Strip, published a statement regarding preserving the accomplishments and victories of the Sunnis in Iraq. According to the statement, the Islamic State was worthy of praise and [Muslims] should support both the organization and its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, and even swear allegiance to them. The statement ended with a call on Sunni jihad fighters to be prepared for battle

⁵⁸ <http://justpaste.it/shababIsIs80>

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

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

against the Iranian Revolutionary Guards in Iraq, and reminded them that are still many areas in the Muslim world that need to be purified from “Shiite filth”.⁶¹

The Islamic State – Nineveh Province

- During the second half of June 2014, the Islamic State published the following:
 - Photos documenting the seizure of the Tal Afar Air Base in Nineveh Province by IS militants.⁶²



One of the photos documenting the seizure of the Tal Afar Air Base in Nineveh Province

- A video documenting a suicide attack carried out by a member of the Islamic State named Abu Umar al-Jazrawi in Nineveh Province.⁶³



Photos of the suicide terrorist

⁶¹ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁶² https://twitter.com/Nynwa_news

⁶³ <http://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum noted that IS militants in Mosul had removed a statue of the Arab poet, Abu Tammam (788-845) and converted the Al-Raqqah church into a mosque.⁶⁴



Photos posted by the visitor

The Islamic State – Fallujah Province

- The Islamic State in Fallujah Province documented dozens of Muslims from the Al-Halabsa tribe pledging an oath of allegiance to the Islamic State in Fallujah.⁶⁵



Photos of Al-Halabsa tribe leaders swearing allegiance to the Islamic State

Other Jihadist Organizations

- The Islamic Army in Iraq published an announcement in which it denied that several of its members in Hawijah, a town near Kirkuk, north of Baghdad, had sworn allegiance to the Islamic State. The organization also denied rumors according to which the Islamic Army in Iraq had

⁶⁴ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁶⁵ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

collaborated with the Awakening Councils in Duloaiya and clarified that, since its founding, the organization has defended Sunnis from the injustices of the Shi'ite regime.⁶⁶

Al-Sham [The Levant]

*The month of June concluded with a report by the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) according to which over 7,000 people have been killed since the beginning of the year in internal clashes between various rebel groups in Syria. According to the report, most of the clashes occurred between the Islamic State and the Al-Nusra Front. In addition to the militants themselves, the conflict has also claimed the lives of 605 civilians.*⁶⁷

*The month of Ramadan, which began on June 28, did not bring about a pause in the Syrian regime's bombings against civilians, especially in the city of Hama.*⁶⁸ *These attacks followed the bombardment of Aleppo using explosive barrels that took place in the middle of the month, killing at least 20 people.*⁶⁹ *Despite the continued bombings, rebels managed to re-seize several sites the mountainous Qalamoun region that, until then, had been under the control of the Syrian army and Hezbollah fighters.*⁷⁰

*Meanwhile, atrocities continued to take place in Syria, on the part of militant groups as well. According to SOHR reports, the Islamic State executed eight people in Deir Hafer in northern Syria who were accused of opposing the organization.*⁷¹ *In addition, a Human Rights Watch report revealed that various fighting groups, including the Islamic State, recruited children and teenagers into their ranks, provided them with weapons training and sent them on dangerous missions, including suicide attacks.*⁷²

Meanwhile, in light of the trend to recruit foreign fighters, several mosques in Britain waged a campaign aimed at motivating young people to join the ranks of fighters in Syria. The campaign came on the heels of a video that appeared on YouTube in which three young British men

⁶⁶ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁶⁷ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/06/140629_syria_rebel_toll.shtml

⁶⁸ <http://www.al-sharq.com/news/details/251895#.U70vEpSSx1E>

⁶⁹ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/06/140616_syria_aleppo_barrel_bombs.shtml (Arabic).

⁷⁰ http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/middleeast/2014/06/140622_syria_fighting.shtml (Arabic).

⁷¹ <http://arabic.cnn.com/middleeast/2014/06/30/group-isis-crucifies-men-public-syrian-towns>

⁷² <http://www.hrw.org/news/2014/06/22/syria-armed-groups-send-children-battle>

encouraged Muslims in Britain to wage jihad in Syria,⁷³ and against the backdrop of similar accusations that were directed at Mohamad al-Arifi, a preacher who visited Britain and gave a speech in a mosque where those same young men were present.⁷⁴

Syria

The Al-Nusra Front in Syria

- The jihadist media institution of the Al-Nusra Front in Syria, Al-Manarah Al-Bayda, published a video documenting a terrorist attack using an explosives-laden truck near the Air Intelligence building in Aleppo. The video included footage of the truck being loaded with explosives, a recorded message from the suicide terrorist, an overview of the site prior to the operation and a photograph of the explosion itself. The video did not mention how many people were killed or injured as a result of the attack.⁷⁵



The loading of a truck with explosive material ahead of an attack on the Air Intelligence building in Aleppo

- During the second half of June, the jihadist news agency, Hemm, which tracks developments in Syria in general, and members of the Al-Nusra Front in particular, published the following:
 - A video (no. 84) documenting the maintenance of Dar Hospital in Hammat.⁷⁶
 - A video (no. 85) documenting a sermon given by a member of the organization regarding the manner in which the month of Ramadan should be embraced.⁷⁷

⁷³ <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-28061173>

⁷⁴ <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2665307/Did-Saudi-preacher-groom-jihadi-Britons.html> (English).

⁷⁵ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁷⁶ https://twitter.com/Hemm_Agency/status/482536847139426304

⁷⁷ https://twitter.com/Hemm_Agency/status/482987793380294656

The Islamic State: Operations in Syria

- The jihadist media institution of the Islamic State, Baqiya, published a video that included interviews with two brothers serving in the organization who were captured and imprisoned by Jaysh al-Islam (“The Army of Islam”), led by Zahran Alloush. After showing photographs of their torture scars from prison, the militants told the story of how they were captured after a car bomb explosion attributed to the Islamic State and how they suffered humiliating treatment during their captivity. The two militants, who were released in a prisoner exchange deal with the Islamic State, sent a message to the Al-Nusra Front stating that Jaysh al-Islam hates the Al-Nusra Front and bears must resentment towards the organization.⁷⁸
- The Islamic State published a report about an attack that its members carried out against Alawite regime forces near Tal Aran, a city in Aleppo Province, northern Syria. According to the statement, Islamic State militants divided themselves into several groups and when one of the groups caused a commotion, the second group began shooting at enemy soldiers at an assembly point in the area. During the fighting, Syrian Air Force planes arrived to try and help the infidel soldiers but they were unsuccessful. Islamic State fighters continued to fire heavily, killing many enemy soldiers.



Islamic State Operations in Damascus

- During the second half of June 2014, the Islamic State in Damascus published the following:

⁷⁸ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

- An announcement about the execution of a man accused of committing sodomy. According to the announcement, a complaint was submitted to the Islamic State court accusing the man of corrupting youth. The decision was made to execute him since he was aware of his actions and did not heed the warnings that were given to him.⁷⁹
- An announcement calling on the Army of Islam to stop fighting against the Islamic State. According to the announcement, the Army of Islam has recently waged an open war against the Islamic State; if it stops its aggression, the Islamic State will do the same.⁸⁰

Islamic State Operations in Homs Province

- The Islamic State in Homs Province published an announcement directed at residents of Al-Mayadin, a city in eastern Syria. The announcement called on residents of the city to lay down their weapons and surrender themselves to the Islamic State, and in return no harm will come to them. The announcement presented the factions with an ultimatum, set to expire on Saturday, June 28, 2014, advised them to “repent”, and called on them to join the effort to establish the caliphate. The announcement was signed by Abu Hajir al-Tunisi, the official responsible for religious legal matters.⁸¹
- The jihadist media institution of the Islamic State in Homs Province, Al-Manhaj, documented the distribution of informational leaflets regarding the fast of the month of Ramadan to residents of the province on June 26, 2014.⁸²

⁷⁹ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁸⁰ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁸¹ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

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



Members of the organization holding informational leaflets

Islamic State Operations in Aleppo Province

- During the second half of June 2014, the Islamic State in Aleppo Province published the following:
 - An announcement regarding the dismissal of Abu Bakr al-Misri, Emir of the Jarabulus region in northern Syria. The announcement followed the distribution of a video in which al-Misri interrogated an adult male in a disparaging manner in order to expose his lack of understanding of the basic tenets of Islam. The announcement ended with a call by the Islamic State in Aleppo to its people to show fear of God when teaching religious matters to commoners.⁸³
 - An announcement stating that that Islamic court in Al-Bab, in northern Aleppo, opened its doors for filing complaints against the organization’s soldiers. According to the announcement, the Islamic State appointed a judge specifically for this issue and already punished – and even executed – some of its soldiers out of obedience to divine justice.⁸⁴

Islamic State Operations in Al-Raqqah Province

- A prominent visitor to the Al-Platform media jihadist media institution published a summary of operations that were carried out by the Islamic State in Al-Raqqah Province on May 25, 2014.⁸⁵

⁸³ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁸⁴ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

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

Other Jihadist Organizations

- A group of seven factions operating in Homs, Syria, including the Authenticity and Development Front and the Bayada Martyrs Brigade, announced their merger under the name “Homs Legion”. The announcement ended with a call on the rest of the factions in the region to join the new legion and operate under one flag.⁸⁶
- Jaysh al-Islam, which belongs to the Islamic Front, published an announcement regarding a militant named Anas Quwaidir Abu Hammam who served as a judge for the Islamic State in Eastern Gouta and eventually left the organization. According to the announcement, Jaysh al-Islam provided Quwaidir with protection but he and his mother were killed when he went to visit his parents, along with his mother, by Islamic State militants. The announcement ended with threats directed at the Islamic State and a promise that it would pay dearly for this murder.⁸⁷
- The Shura Council of the Mujahideen in the Eastern Province published an announcement titled, “A Response to the Rumors”. According to the announcement, enemies of Islam are trying to publish false rumors about the organization as part of their psychological warfare. The organization explained that the rumors regarding negotiations for reconciliation between itself and the Islamic State were completely false since the Islamic State has refused all past proposals to turn to a shari’a court. Militants from the Shura Council of the Mujahideen in the Eastern Province continue to fight against infidels and tyrants.⁸⁸
- The Islamic Front – the Leadership Council of the Army of Islam in Al-Ghouta Al-Sharqiyya Province published an announcement regarding the cruelty of the Islamic State. According to the announcement, Anas Qwider Abu Hamam, a former Islamic State fighter joined the Army of Islam after leaving the Islamic State. He left because of the atrocities that he saw in the organization’s prisons and he decided to return to the correct path. The Army of Islam gave him shelter and protected him since the Islamic State intended to kill him – it considers leaving the organization a reason to be killed. One day when Abu Hamam went out to visit his family, members of the Islamic State killed him and his mother. The Army of Islam condemned the

⁸⁶ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁸⁷ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

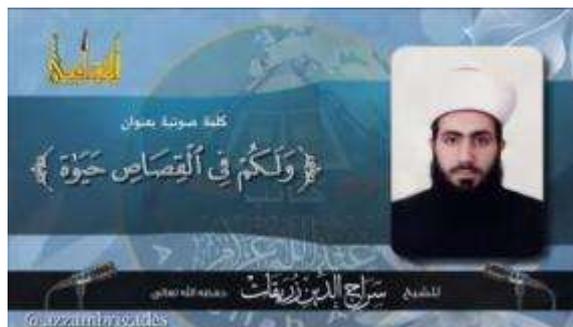
⁸⁸ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

actions of the Islamic State and vowed that its fighters would pay the price for the war they are waging against the Sunnis in Al-Ghouta Al-Sharqiyya.⁸⁹

Lebanon

Abdullah Azzam Brigades

- The Awzaey Media jihadist media institution published a recorded speech by Siraj al-Din Zurayqat, Spokesman for the Abdullah Azzam Brigades. In his speech, Zurayqat attacked Hezbollah and threatened that as long as Iranian forces remain in Lebanon, the Abdullah Azzam Brigades will continue to attack them. Zurayqat then called on Sunnis in Lebanon to bear arms and face the “allies of Satan” in order to defend their honor, and he made a special appeal to Sunni soldiers in the Lebanese army to defect from the army that, as far as he is concerned, serves as a tool to serve the interests of Hezbollah.⁹⁰



The leader of the Abdullah Azzam Brigades in a speech against Hezbollah and Iranian presence in Lebanon

The Islamic State in Lebanon

- The Islamic State in Lebanon published a claim of responsibility for a terrorist attack that was carried out at the Duroy Hotel in Beirut on June 14, 2014, in which three police officers were injured. According to the announcement, the attack was carried out against a group of security forces with ties to Hezbollah. The announcement ended with a threat directed at Hezbollah and the Lebanese army that the attack was just the beginning of a wave foretelling hundreds of suicide terrorists and attacks against Shi'ites in Lebanon.⁹¹

⁸⁹ <http://shabakataljihad.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁹⁰ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

⁹¹ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

Jordan

- The Al-Aisha jihadist media institution published a letter titled, “A call on our brothers in Lebanon, start a revolution, this is your chance”. The letter stated that today residents of the village of Arsal in Baalbek Province (in northern Lebanon) are being attacked by the Christian army and Hezbollah just because they are Sunnis. The time has come for Sunnis in Lebanon to stop being afraid and to correct the injustice that has been done to them for decades. The enemy is weak at the moment and they should take advantage of the opportunity to start a revolution to join the one being waged in Syria.⁹²
- Visitors to several jihadist Web forums, including the Al-Fida forum, expressed joy over the release of Sheikh Muhammad al-Maqdisi, a senior leader of the Salafi-jihadist movement in Jordan, from a Jordanian prison.⁹³ For example, a prominent visitor to the Al-Jihad Al-Alami jihadist Web forum published a video documenting the moment of the sheikh’s release.⁹⁴



From left to right: the banner produced in honor of al-Maqdisi’s release; a photo of al-Maqdisi at a reception held in his home in honor of his release

The Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip

Global jihadist organizations in the Gaza Strip kept a low profile during Israel’s attacks on

⁹² <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁹³ <http://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

⁹⁴ <http://shabakataljahad.com/vb> (Arabic).

Gaza, which followed the kidnapping and murder of three Israeli teenagers in Hebron. Various terrorist organizations in the Gaza Strip continuously fired rockets at Israel but no notable action was taken by jihadist organizations in the area.

In the Sinai Peninsula, jihadist organizations continued to operate in the format of sporadic, not strategic, activity. On June 28, 2014 four Egyptian soldiers were shot to death by gunmen in Rafah, in the northern Sinai Peninsula. The gunmen stopped the bus, took off the passengers and shot four of them to death. The next day, Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, a prominent jihadist organization in the Sinai Peninsula, claimed responsibility for the attack and said that Sisi's soldiers would not be able to evade retaliation.⁹⁵

The same day, another incident took place in the Sinai Peninsula in which two gunmen attacked a police officer in Al-Arish. The gunmen did not manage to injure the officer but they killed two people who were with him. The incident took place near the police officer's house while he was at work.⁹⁶

Ansar al-Dawla al-Islamiyya bi Bayt al-Maqdis

- The Supporters of the Islamic State in Jerusalem (Ansar al-Dawla al-Islamiyya bi Bayt al-Maqdis) published a message of condolences over the deaths of two martyrs, Usama al-Hasoumi and Mohammad al-Fasih. According to the announcement, the martyrs were involved in preparing and firing rockets into southern Israel, planting mines and conducting ambushes.⁹⁷

The Mujahideen Shura Council in the Environs of Jerusalem

- The Mujahideen Shura Council in the Environs of Jerusalem (a Salafi-jihadist organization operating in the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip) published two videos documenting the organization's fighters planning and carrying out military operations.⁹⁸

The Maghreb [North Africa]

⁹⁵ <http://thecairopost.com/news/116700/news/bayt-al-maqdis-claims-responsibility-for-death-of-4-soldiers-in-rafah>

⁹⁶ <http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2014/06/28/two-killed-arish-shootout>

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

⁹⁸ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

In Libya, seven soldiers were killed and 53 civilians were injured on June 25 in an attack on a military convoy near the city of Benghazi.⁹⁹ The situation in Libya continued to worry not only the residents of Libya themselves who fear for their future,¹⁰⁰ but also the other countries in the region as well as the West. In a short meeting that was held between the new President of Egypt, Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, and the President of Algeria, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, the two discussed the situation in Libya and cooperation between the two countries in the field of counter-terrorism.¹⁰¹ The United States and Italy, which fear Libya's transformation into an active arena of jihad, also announced their willingness to invest hundreds of millions of dollars to train local forces to counter the threat of terrorism.¹⁰²

Meanwhile, Morocco continued to fight terrorism. On the local level, Morocco's Interior Ministry announced on June 25 that a six-member terror cell involved in recruiting Moroccan volunteers to the ranks of terrorist organizations in Syria and Iraq had been dismantled.¹⁰³ On the international level, Morocco and Belgium signed an agreement on June 19 to cooperate and share intelligence in order to prevent and combat all forms of terrorism.¹⁰⁴

Tunisia also announced its request for counter-terrorism assistance from the West. On June 18, the Prime Minister of Tunisia, Mehdi Jomaa, announced that his country would request Germany's help to secure the border during the upcoming election period.¹⁰⁵ Meanwhile, Tunisia has launched outreach activities aimed at youth and young people to prevent them from joining jihadist organizations in Libya and Tunisia.¹⁰⁶

Libya

- During the second half of June 2014, Ansar al-Sharia in Libya published the following:
 - An announcement regarding a third attempt by Khalifa Haftar's forces to enter the city of Benghazi in eastern Libya. According to the announcement, Haftar's forces suffered

⁹⁹ http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/06/26/feature-01 (English).

¹⁰⁰ http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/blog/2014/06/19/feature-02 (English).

¹⁰¹ <http://www.alquds.co.uk/?p=185068>

¹⁰² <http://www.alquds.co.uk/?p=185537>

¹⁰³ <http://www.alrai.com/article/655676.html>

¹⁰⁴ http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2014/06/25/feature-01 (English).

¹⁰⁵ <http://www.alarabonline.org/?id=25568>

¹⁰⁶ <http://magharebia.com/ar/articles/awi/features/2014/06/19/feature-03> (Arabic).

many losses, which forced them to retreat, thereby enabling the mujahideen to loot several vehicles, weapons and supplies.¹⁰⁷

- An announcement regarding the release of two captives from Haftar’s forces after “the facts were made clear to them and they repented”. The announcement ended with a statement by members of the organization to residents of Benghazi according to which they are not their enemies but rather they are trying to defend them and their honor.¹⁰⁸
- Photos from an attack carried out by members of the organization. According to the publication, the militants managed to drive out soldiers from the infidel army from the city of Benghazi for the third time.¹⁰⁹



Photos from an attack by members of the organization

Egypt

- During the second half of June 2014, Afnan Misr, a jihadist organization operating in Egypt, published the following:
 - A claim of responsibility (announcement no. 8) for planting explosives in the Ittihadiya Palace in Cairo on June 18, 2014. In the framework of the announcement, the organization explained that it planted several explosives in a building used by security forces but cancelled the operation after they identified people in civilian clothing and

¹⁰⁷ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic).

¹⁰⁸ https://twitter.com/AnsarShariaa_ly/status/480888577858207744

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

could not determine if they were connected to the security staff. The organization explained that, despite the fact that palace guards discovered one of the explosive devices, most of the devices had not yet been discovered and, therefore, passer-by should avoid getting close to the palace area.¹¹⁰

- A report (announcement no. 9) according to which several explosive devices planted in the Ittihadiya Palace, which were not discovered by Egyptian security forces, exploded on June 30, 2014 and caused a number of casualties. According to the organization, the palace was selected as the target of the attack because the organization wanted to send a message that all security officers' places of residence were easy to attack.¹¹¹

Nigeria

Boko Haram

*Boko Haram in Nigeria continued to target the civilian population in the country through the kidnapping of civilians. While in April the organization abducted over 200 schoolgirls, during the second half of June it abducted 60 women and 31 young men from several villages that it attacked in northeast Nigeria. The incompetence of the authorities to cope with these kidnappings and the lack of an attempt on their part to release the hostages has increased the criticism directed towards the Nigerian government.*¹¹²

Somalia

In Somalia, clashes continued to take place between Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen, a prominent jihadist organization in Somalia that is trying to maintain its power and demonstrate its presence, and the government and security forces.

On June 16, 2014 dozens of Somali gunmen attacked hotels in the coastal city of Mpeketoni in Kenya and killed at least 50 people while they were watching the World Cup. The gunmen fired automatic fire in all directions, set two hotels on fire, and attacked a postal office and a police station without encountering any resistance from Somali security forces. Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen

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

¹¹¹ https://twitter.com/ajnad_misr_am/status/483652452877885440

¹¹² <http://alhayat.com/Articles/3193717/بوكو-حرام-تصعد-سياسة-خطف-الفتيات-وتقتل-عشرات-بهجمات-في-نيجيريا>

*claimed responsibility for the attack a short time after it was carried out, and claimed that it was a response to the deployment of forces by the Kenyan army in Somalia and the execution of Muslim clerics.*¹¹³

*On June 23, 2014 Kenya's military aircraft attacked two Al-Shabab bases in southern Somalia and killed at least 80 members of the organization, according to a report from the task force of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Al-Shabab denied that any of its members had been killed in the attack.*¹¹⁴

Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen

- Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen, which operates in Somalia, published a claim of responsibility for an attack that was carried out at the Amalow Hotel in Buloburde, which serves as the military headquarters of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). At least two soldiers from Djibouti were killed, though the organization's spokesman, Abdulaziz Abu Musab, claimed that six soldiers were killed.¹¹⁵ It should be noted that Al-Shabab carried out a similar attack at the same hotel on March 18, 2014.¹¹⁶

The Caucasus

- Abu Muhammad al-Daghistani, Emir of the Caucasus Emirate, published a speech regarding the inter-organizational conflict in Syria. Al-Daghistani said that when the decision was made to send members of the organization to Syria, they were advised not to establish a separate battalion named after the Caucasus Emirate but rather to join a well-established existing group. However, Dokka Abu Usman (Doku Umarov), leader of the Chechen rebels, did not abide by the recommendation and established the Army of Migrants and Supporters (Jaish al-Muhajirin wal-Ansar). Al-Daghistani then details the history of the conflict between the Islamic State and the Al-Nusra Front and criticized the senior Chechen militant who joined the ranks of the Islamic State, Umar al-Shishani, claiming that he cannot speak for the Caucasus Emirate.

¹¹³ <http://in.reuters.com/article/2014/06/16/uk-kenya-attacks-idINKBN0ER0I620140616>

¹¹⁴ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/23/us-somalia-unrest-idUSKBN0EY15E20140623>

¹¹⁵ <http://www.hanein.info/vb> (Arabic); <http://somalimemo.net/articles/229/Al-Shabaab-oo-Sheegatay-Masuuliyadda-Weerarkii-Buula-Burde-Ka-Dhacay>

¹¹⁶ <http://allafrica.com/stories/201403181732.html>



Abu Muhammad al-Daghistani

The Indian Subcontinent

- The jihadist media institution of Ansar al-Tawhid fi Bilad al-Hind, Al-Isaba, a Salafi-jihadist organization in the Indian subcontinent, sent greetings to the mujahideen in various arenas of jihad in honor of the month of Ramadan.¹¹⁷

China

- The jihadist media institution of the Turkestan Islamic Party, Sawt al-Islam, published a video titled, “Tourism of the Believers – Part 9”.¹¹⁸



The video banner

The West

- Sheikh Anjem Choudary, a radical Islamic preacher in England, continued to publish controversial correspondence on his Twitter account. During the second half of June 2014, he

¹¹⁷ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

¹¹⁸ <https://shamikh1.info/vb> (Arabic).

criticized those who denounce the Islamic State and expressed his wish for Islam to take over Christian Europe.¹¹⁹ In addition, he continued to claim that the British government is using discriminatory policies towards Muslim citizens,¹²⁰ that the Chinese government is oppressing its Muslim citizens in Shing'iang Province¹²¹ and that the Lebanese regime is responding harshly to Sheikh Omar Bakhri.¹²²



Women and Jihad

- A visitor to the Al-Fida jihadist Web forum who identified herself as the wife of a martyr who was killed in battle in one of the arenas of jihad published a letter of request to the wife of Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri, the leader of Al-Qaeda. In the letter, the writer plead with al-Zawahiri's wife to give direction to Muslim women and to encourage their spirit. In addition, the writer asked al-Zawahiri's wife to express her opinion about the disagreements arising between jihad factions in Iraq and Syria.¹²³

Miscellaneous

¹¹⁹ <https://twitter.com/anjemchoudary/status/478579965173448704>

¹²⁰ <https://twitter.com/anjemchoudary/status/479937071457783808>

¹²¹ <https://twitter.com/anjemchoudary/status/483696995232915456>

¹²² <https://twitter.com/anjemchoudary/status/482884452566462464>

¹²³ <http://al-fidaa.com/vb> (Arabic).

- The administrator of the Al-Platform Media jihadist Web forum published an announcement regarding recent attacks against the forum, during which the site collapsed several times. In the announcement, the administrator of the forum noted that the source of the attacks was known – they were coming from Iraq, from heretics who are opposed to the forum. The administrator vowed that he, together with Islamic State fighters, were tracking the attackers in order to ambush them and that revenge would come soon.¹²⁴
- The Islamic State in Al-Anbar Province in Iraq published on its Twitter account an archive including all of its publications. This information was accessible at http://justpaste.it/Alanbar_news but was later closed by Twitter management.¹²⁵



The archive banner

¹²⁴ <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb> (Arabic).

¹²⁵ https://twitter.com/Alanbar_news/status/481489710096056320/photo/1

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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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