Bimonthly Report

Summary of Information on Jihadist Websites

The First Half of November 2013

Highlights

This report summarizes notable events discussed on jihadist Web forums during the first half of November 2013. Following are the main points covered in the report:

- The killing of Hakimullah-Mehsud, leader of the Taliban-Pakistan, provokes calls from jihadist elements to launch reprisals against the United States. At this stage, it is unclear if his replacement will continue talks with the Pakistani government or increase the organization's terrorist activities.

- The rivalry between jihadist groups in Syria continues, including reciprocal killings by each side. Evidence from the arena of jihad in Syria indicates that violence is also being used against civilians. Each group, including opposition forces and Islamic organizations, emphasizes the corruption of the others, sometimes with regard to the West's support of some of the groups.

- The Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham threatens to launch reprisals against Kurdish members of secular movements, such as the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), and against Kurdish security and intelligence officials, because of their cooperation with Bashar al-Assad's regime and their role in the war against terrorism. In addition, the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham announces that it is going to launch reprisals against the Badr Martyrs Brigade because of its operations against the mujahideen and Sunni civilians in Syria.

- The discourse among visitors to jihadist Web forums concerns the current operational strategy of Al-Qaeda in Iraq and Al-Sham, which is to expand an Islamic state by acting against three strategic threats – the Crusaders, the Shi'ites and the secular camp.

- Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula vows to launch reprisals against the Houthis, a Shi'ite minority in Yemen, for their aggression against Sunni Salafists in Dammaj.

- As a result of the crisis in Egypt, Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Maqdisi, a senior member of the Salafi-jihadist movement in Jordan, criticizes the campaign of oppression being carried out by the military regime in Egypt against the Muslim Brotherhood, and calls on Salafi-jihadist activists to help them. He emphasizes that the Muslim Brotherhood cannot be labeled a heretical organization, and that the Salafi-jihadist movement sees their members as Muslims despite their differences of opinion.

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- The battle and jihadist discourse between jihadist organizations and the Egyptian army in the Sinai Peninsula continues. Meanwhile, intelligence is being collected and disseminated regarding potential targets in Israel.

- The Somali Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen launches the fourth edition of the periodical, *Gaidi Mtaani*, which focuses on the terrorist attack that took place at the Westgate Mall in Nairobi on September 21, 2013.

- The discourse surrounding al-Zawahiri's leadership crisis, and the way in which he handled the public defiance shown by the emir of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham, seems to have disappeared from open jihadist Web forums.

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New Publications

Ideology

- A visitor to the official Web forum of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS) posted a document explaining that the organization faced three important projects that must be promoted in each and every arena [of jihad] in order to ensure the revival and expansion of the Islamic state:
  - The Crusaders Project: Even though the Crusaders project in Iraq was defeated, [the organization] must persist in fighting the Crusaders as they have distorted the face of Islamic identity, stolen the treasures of the [Muslim] Nation, such as its gas reserves, and worked to spread Christianity and other vices.
  - The Shi'ite Project: Even though the Shi'ite Project is not showing signs of growth despite the media hype and systematic deception directed against the [Sunni] Nation's intelligence, consciousness and religion, [the organization] must persist in fighting the Shi'ites as they have succeeded in converting three "Arab countries" into countries of "Amgushim" a derogatory name for Persians and, in this context, for their strategic allies – namely Iraq, Syria and Lebanon.
  - The Secular Camp Project: The struggle between the Islamic State and the secular camp within the Islamic world is not about the Parliament, but rather about the identity of the Islamic world and the role of Islam in its political, economic, social, and ethical systems. Countries such as Syria and Iraq have a great influence on Western and Israeli interests and, therefore, must be re-directed to the system of an Islamic State in order to bring about the defeat of the Israeli army – in Tel Aviv.[1]

- The UMMA NEWS Web site published a Russian translation of a lecture given by Sheikh Khalid al-Husainanan titled, "Exposing the Truth". Al-Husainanan served in a senior position on Al-Qaeda's Shari'a Council and was killed in a drone attack in December 2012. Administrators of the Web site publish al-Husainanan's lectures online once every few months. In this lecture, al-Husainanan discussed fulfilling the commandment of jihad. He explained that he put together the lecture as a response to the many questions that he received regarding the essence of jihad, a fact that saddened him because jihad is a world onto itself that every Muslim must come to know. According to al-Husainanan, jihad is a war to defend Islam and Allah's laws, first and foremost, and then a means to defend the homeland. He expressed outrage over the fact that Muslims were not joining jihad because they were expected to stay and home and raise their children, and he emphasized that this

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[1] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic).

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was an excuse that prevents Muslims from protecting their Nation, as they are obliged to do. Al-Husainanan emphasized that jihad takes precedence over everything else, including family. Jihad, as far as he is concerned, is the highest form of Islam and anyone who joins jihad throughout the world is a noble Muslim.[2]

Guidebooks and Instruction Pamphlets

- A prominent visitor to the Al-Jihad Al-Alami jihadist Web forum published a collection of video courses in the site's military section. The videos dealt with various military topics, mainly on the use of DShK machine guns (a heavy machine gun made in the former USSR).[3]

Promoting the Myth of the Martyr

- A visitor to the Hanein jihadist Web forum paid his respects to Abu 'Omar al-Azdi, a martyr from the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham. According to the claim, al-Azdi had studied medicine in the United States for six years and, even though he had lived a life of ease, he left everything "in the hopes of sacrificing himself as a martyr". Al-Azdi was killed during an air raid on the city of Al-Safirah, Aleppo Province.[4]

Dr. Abu 'Omar al-Azdi – an educated martyr

- The jihadist media institution, Ibn Taymiyya, responsible for publications regarding the Salafi-jihadist movement in the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip, published a video of the last will and testament of a martyr named Wisam Muhammad al-'Atel, also known as Abu Muhammad al-Filastini. Al-'Atel was a 37-year-old dentist from the Jabaliya refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip with a wife and four children. At a certain stage in his life he became a Salafi-jihadist and decided to go to Syria in order to fight against Bashar al-

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[2] http://ummanews.com/news/last-news/11574--l-r.html (Russian).
[3] http://shabakataljahad.com/vb (Arabic).
[4] http://www.hanein.info/vb (Arabic); https://twitter.com/Minbar_s/status/396644746439196674/photo/1; http://inagist.com/all/396644746439196674/

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Assad's regime. He fought there for around 11 months until he carried out a suicide attack against Syrian security forces in southern Aleppo on October 31, 2013. In his will, al-'Atel instructed the Muslim Nation to fulfill the commandment of jihad and called on religious scholars to fulfill their duty to preach jihad.[5]

According to Arab sources, al-'Atel had traveled from the Gaza Strip to Turkey on his Palestinian passport, and from there continued to Syria.[6]

A clip from the video of Wisam Muhammad al-'Atel's last will and testament

Magazines

- The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan published new issues of its jihadist magazines in Arabic, English and Urdu: Issue No. 90 for October-November 2013 of the Arabic-language magazine *Al-Sumud* (44 pp.);[7] Issue No. 58 for October 2013 of the English-language magazine *In Fight* (150 pp.); The October-November 2013 issue of the magazine *Nawai Afghan*, in Urdu (71 pp.),[8] all of which cover jihad in Afghanistan.

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[5] https://shamikh1.info/vb (Arabic).
[6] http://paltimes.net/details/news/51787/استشهاد-طبيب-فلسطيني-في-سوريا.html (Arabic).
[7] http://alsomod-iea.info/
[8] http://nawaiafghan.blogspot.co.il/

The covers of, from left to right, *In Fight*, *Nawai Afghan* and *Al-Sumud*

- The Taliban-Pakistan published Issue No. 7 of its jihadist magazine, *Ihya E Khilafat* (41 pp.).[9]

The banner page of *Ihya E Khilafat*

- The Somali Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen released the fourth edition (23 pp.) of its magazine, *Gaidi Mtaani*, in Swahili and English, which discussed the terrorist attack that the organization carried out on the Westgate Mall in Nairobi on September 21, 2013.[10]

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[9] https://alfidaa.info/vb (Arabic).
[10] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic).

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The banner page of *Gaidi Mtaani*

- On November 9, 2013, the Sana Al-Sham jihadist media institution published the first edition of its newspaper, *Sana Al-Sham* (8 pp.). According to the media institution's Twitter account, the newspaper was printed and distributed around Aleppo in order to help the publicity efforts of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham in the battle arena in Syria. Among the various items covered in the newspaper was an interview with Omar al-Shishani, who explained why he left the leadership of Al-Muhajirun wal-Ansar, an organization composed of foreign fighters on Syrian soil, and joined the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham.[11]

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[11] https://twitter.com/SanaAlShamNews

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The banner page of *Sana Al-Sham*

Reports from the Field

Afghanistan-Pakistan

On November 1, 2013, Hakimullah Mehsud, leader of the Taliban in Pakistan, was killed in an American drone attack that struck his car in northern Waziristan. The day after the killing, it was reported that the Taliban leadership had chosen a new leader - Khan Saad Sajaneh, who had previously served as Mehsud's deputy. However, several days later it was reported by the organization's Shura Council that Mullah Fazlullah had been chosen as Mehsud's successor.[12]

In response to Mehsud's killing, the government of Pakistan summoned the U.S. ambassador in Pakistan to a call in protest [of the killing].[13] The Pakistani Minister of Interior even made an official announcement after the killing in which he claimed that the United States was sabotaging the peace talks between the government of Pakistan and the Taliban.[14] U.S. Secretary of State, John Kerry, responded by claiming that while the United States understood the concerns of the Pakistani government, the killing was justified.[15]

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[12] http://www.dawn.com/news/1054794/pakistani-taliban-elect-mullah-fazlullah-as-new-chief (English).
[13] http://news.walla.co.il/?w=//2691085 (Hebrew).
[14] http://news.walla.co.il/?w=//2691127 (Hebrew).
[15] http://news.walla.co.il/?w=//2691734 (Hebrew).

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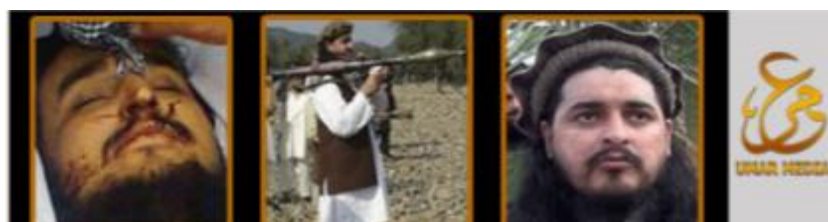Additional resources are available on the ICT Website: www.ict.org.il

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The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan

- The Taliban in Afghanistan published an announcement expressing its condolences following the killing of Nasiruddin Haqqani, a prominent leader in the Haqqani network in Pakistan. Haqqani was the son of the network's founder, Jalaluddin Haqqani, and served as its finance manager. In the announcement, the Taliban in Afghanistan sent condolences to Haqqani's father but said that his death should not have a negative impact of the path of jihad. It emphasized that, despite the enormity of the loss, the Taliban in Afghanistan would train dozens more martyrs ready to sacrifice themselves in their struggle against the enemy.[16]

The Taliban in Pakistan

Responses to the Killing of Hakimullah Mehsud, leader of the Taliban in Pakistan

- The jihadist media institution of the Taliban in Pakistan, Umar, published an official announcement confirming that Hakimullah Mehsud had been killed in an American drone attack in northern Waziristan. According to the announcement, Mehsud was killed on Friday night, November 1, 2013, when his car was bombed by three missiles. It also stated that his deputy, Abdallah Bahar, was not at the scene at the time and was not killed in the attack, contrary to media reports. The announcement described at length Mehsud's life story and the great contribution that he made to the jihadist effort. The organization vowed to continue on the path of jihad until it succeeds in liberating the region from U.S. control, and to operate against the Pakistani regime due to its act of treason in cooperating with the United States. In addition, the announcement said that the Shura Council of the Taliban in Pakistan had decided to appoint Mullah Fazlullah as a new emir to the organization and the mufti Sheikh Khaled Hakani as his deputy.[17]

Banner of the announcement regarding the death of Hakimullah Mehsud

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[16] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic);
http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/worldnews/2013/11/131111_haqani_killing.shtml (English).
[17] http://shabakataljahad.com/vb (Arabic).

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Following the organization's announcement of Mehsud's death, other jihadist organizations published obituaries in Mehsud's memory and expressed solidarity with the Taliban in Pakistan, including:

- o The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan wrote that it was shocked by the announcement of Mehsud's death and promised to take revenge on the Americans for their despicable actions.[18]

- o Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) published an announcement of mourning (Announcement No. 71) about Mehsud's death and emphasized that the killing of commanders and dignitaries from among the mujahideen only serves to fan the flames of jihad and to fill the hearts [of the mujahideen] with anger at the enemies of Islam. In addition, it promised that the convoy of jihad would continue [on its path] until the infidel occupiers leave Muslim lands.[19]

- o The Army of the Nation, Jerusalem, a Salafi-jihadist organization operating in the Gaza Strip, also expressed its condolences.[20]

- o Jihad activists posted obituaries in Mehsud's memory on social media networks, such as Twitter, and called for acts of vengeance against the United States.[21]

The banner posted by a jihad activist on Twitter in memory of Mehsud

- During the first half of November 2013, the jihadist media institution of the Taliban in Pakistan, Umar, published the following:
  - o A two-part video titled, "The Khyber Invasion", documenting the organization's military operations in the Khyber tribal area against Pakistani government forces.[22]

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[18] http://shabakataljahad.com/vb (Arabic).

[19] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic); http://www.aljazeera.net/news/pages/341e8ca3-c616-4afe-96b1-53bcb501aa16

[20] http://vb.beit-almaqdes.net/

[21]#استشهاد_حكيم_الله_محسود

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       o A video documenting the killing of several commanders in the Pakistani army by members of the Taliban in Pakistan in Swat and Malakand, in northern Pakistan.[23]

The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan

- The jihadist media institution of the Islamist Movement of Uzbekistan, Jundallah, published a video titled, "What is Happening in the Tribal Areas – Part 12".[24]

The Arabian Peninsula

As a result of the escalating conflict between the Salafists and the Houthis in Dammaj, Saada region, Al-Qaeda promised to stand by the Salafists and carry out acts of retribution against the Houthis. The ceasefire agreement that was signed between the Salafists and the Houthis was broken the day after it was signed, threatening the stability of Yemen.[25]

Meanwhile, Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) continues to attack security targets in Yemen. For instance, AQAP activists killed two soldiers and a civilian at a security checkpoint in Abyan Province, which is considered an AQAP stronghold.[26] The Yemeni government was also credited with several achievements in its fight against AQAP activists. On November 8, 2013, the Yemeni Air Force killed five activists in the Al-Mahfad region, Abyan Province.[27] In addition, the Yemeni government began trials against nine members of an AQAP terrorist cell, which had been planning to assassinate the President of Yemen, Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi.[28]

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula

- During the first half of November 2013, the jihadist media institution of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), Al-Malahem, published the following:
  - o A video titled, "The Aggression Against Dammaj" by Sheikh Harith bin Ghazi al-Nadhari (aka Muhammad al-Murshidi), a senior member of AQAP. In the video, al-Murshidi criticized the aggression displayed by the Houthis, a Shi'ite minority in

[22] https://alfidaa.info/vb (Arabic).

[23] https://alfidaa.info/vb (Arabic).

[24] https://alfidaa.info/vb (Arabic).

[25] http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/yemen/al-qaida-pledges-revenge-against-al-houthis-1.1254586 (English).

[26] http://gulftoday.ae/portal/2ec153f8-21fa-4707-8fff-d8d587798c5a.aspx

[27] http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/11/08/drone-strikes-kill-5-al-qaida-suspects-in-yemen/ (English).

[28] http://dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2013/Nov-10/237392-al-qaeda-suspects-on-trial-for-plot-to-kill-yemen-leader.ashx (English).

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Yemen supported by Iran, against Dammaj in Saada, considered a Salafist stronghold in Yemen. Al-Murshidi expressed solidarity with the besieged Salafists and with the rest of the Sunnis in the country who are subjected to aggression at the hands of the Houthis, and he admonished the central government in Yemen for not acting to protect the country's Sunni population from this aggression. According to him, this was the not the first time that the government had turned a blind eye to Yemen's Sunni citizens, as it had also collaborated with Christian forces in the killing of Sunnis via drone attacks. According to al-Murshidi, the Yemeni army should be considered a traitor to its country and its nation for ignoring the aggression against Sunnis in Yemen, and for fighting against the mujahideen. Finally, al-Murshidi vowed that the Houthis would be severely punished for their actions is they continue to harm the Sunni population and tarnish the image of Islam.[29]

Sheikh Muhammad al-Murshidi, a senior member of AQAP

o A video titled, "It is You we worship and You we ask for help" (a verse taken from the opening chapter of the Qur'an) – the first video in a series of new publications titled, "With the Qur'an", by Sheikh Harith bin Ghazi al-Nadhari (aka Muhammad al-Murshidi), a senior member of AQAP. In the video, al-Murshidi discussed the importance of worshipping God and applying shari'a [Islamic law].[30]

o A six-minute long video of a speech given by Jalal Bal'idi, a senior member of the Yemeni Salafi-jihadist movement, Ansar Al-Shari'a, which is affiliated with AQAP. In the video, Bal'idi criticized the attack that was carried out by American fighter jets against Al-Qaeda activists during Eid Al-Fitr (the Muslim holiday that marks the end of the month of Ramadan). He also mentioned retaliatory acts that were taken by the
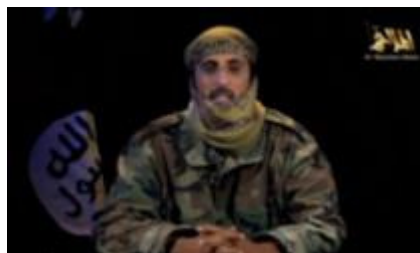
[29] https://alfidaa.info/vb (Arabic).
[30] https://shamikh1.info/vb (Arabic).

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organization against Yemeni and American military targets in various provinces throughout Yemen, including Abyan, Shabwa, Hadhramaut and Al-Bayda.

Against the backdrop of the these events, Bal'idi noted that over the course of recent years Yemeni security forces have become a tool for the United States, which uses them as it sees fit. Therefore, he advised commanders and soldiers in the Yemeni army, who are being used as intermediaries between Yemen and the United States, to flee and capture Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, the President of Yemen and agent of the Americans. He explained that Al-Qaeda is dedicated to fighting the Western Crusader enemy led by the United States, which it intends to expel from the land, and establish an Islamic emirate based on shari'a.[31]

Jalal Bal'idi, a senior member of Ansar Al-Shari'a

Iraq

After having awaited the departure of American forces from Iraq in 2011, and after having strongly and openly opposed a reduced presence of American military forces in his country, claiming that [Iraq] can "take care of itself", the Prime Minister of Iraq, Nuri al-Maliki, held meetings with several distinguished White House officials, including the President of the United States. Al-Maliki requested American military assistance that would provide a suitable response to the needs of Iraq, which has been fighting a bloody war against Al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI) and its allies. Al-Maliki said that the terrorist organizations in his country are a common enemy shared by Iraq and the United States,[32] and emphasized their role as partners "who spilled blood together in their war against terrorism", which he claimed will also help them to win.[33]

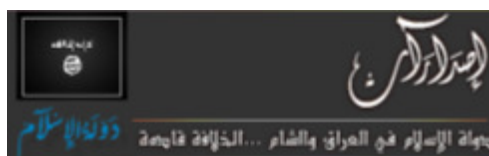[31] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic).
[32] http://english.alarabiya.net/en/views/news/middle-east/2013/11/07/Iraq-s-plea-for-help-.html (Arabic).
[33] http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2013/11/01/Iraqi-leader-blames-regional-unrest-for-revival-of-Qaeda-in-Iraq.html;

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Against the backdrop of these events, the media continued to report additional terrorist attacks that took place in Iraq during the first half of November 201, a troubling development that is considered to be a new peak in the bloodshed seen by the country since 2008.[34]

The Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham

- During the first half of November 2013, the jihadist media institution of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS), Al-'Itisam, published the following:
  - o Video (No. 22) in a series of publications, titled "Window to the Land of Wars", which documented the burning of drugs as part of the organization's effort to destroy the phenomenon. The video also showed the explosion of a hummer belonging to Iraqi security forces in Al-Anbar Province.[35]
  - o A visitor to the Islamic State of Iraq and Al Sham's official Web forum reported the establishment of another Web site belonging to the organization (http://sham-iraq.cu.cc / http://iraq-sham.cu.cc), dedicated solely to the publication of videos and audio files.[36]

The banner of the new Web site

- A prominent visitor to the Al-Jihad Al-Alami jihadist Web forum, Al-Jawaher al-Da'i al-Munasir, posted a personal call to Abu-Bakir al-Baghdadi, leader of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham. The visitor noted that, despite his great respect for the organization's

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http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/us-iraq-leaders-vow-fight-al-qaeda-201311241257475969.html (both in English).
[34] http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2013/11/04/North-Iraq-violence-kills-11-people-.html; http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/iraq-suicide-attack-kills-policemen-2013116132410331585.html; http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/suicide-blasts-kill-soldiers-iraq-north-201311722949742816.html; http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2013/11/10/Attacks-concentrated-in-north-Iraq-kill-seven-.html; http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2013/11/13/Coordinated-blasts-target-pilgrims-north-of-Baghdad.html (all in English).
[35] https://twitter.com/e3tasimo
[36] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic).

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activities, he believed it necessary to warn it against carrying out any prisoner deal or collaboration with the United States and other Western countries. The organization should not make any contact with the West and should rely solely on Islam and Muslims.[37]

General

- The blog of the Russian-language jihadist Web site, Kavkaz Center, compiled quotes taken from an interview that was conducted by the Russian news agency, Fontanka, with fighters from the Caucasus in a Syrian coastal area between Latakia and Tartus. The fighters said that they were located in an abandoned airport and that until October 2013 their Russian battalion (known as the "Russian Corpus") had been composed of 267 fighters divided into two battalions. According to them, this number was expected to increase to 2,000 Russian fighters in the near future. The fighters were armed with small weapons, grenade launchers, mortars and tank weapons. The blog noted that after the interview, the FSB began a series of arrests apparently designed to prevent new recruits from arriving in Syria. According to them, Syria is a new arena of jihad for the old struggle between Muslims and the KGB.[38]

Volunteer fighters from the Caucasus in Syria

Al-Sham [The Levant]

While the civil war continues in Syria,[39] the international community continues to support the Syrian National Coalition [a coalition of opposition groups in the Syrian civil war] in bringing

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[37] http://shabakataljahad.com/vb (Arabic).

[38] http://www.kcblog.info/2013/11/blog-post_5956.html (Russian).

[39] http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/syrian-army-captures-strategic-northern-town-2013111112241269607.html; http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/envoy-says-no-syria-talks-without-opposition-20131117325776602.html; http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/fighting-intensifies-around-syrian-capital-2013112225051841858.html; http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/syria-troops-launch-major-offensive-aleppo-201311863542920283.html;

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about an end to the conflict through diplomatic means. Meanwhile, the Syrian National Coalition declared that it will accept the peace talks being held in Geneva with the Syrian regime as long as multiple preconditions are honored, including the release of political prisoners and the provision of humanitarian aid to besieged areas in Syria. In addition, the Syrian National Coalition took another step towards ending the crisis by recognizing nine "officers" to oversee the Syrian territories under rebel control in the framework of a transition government.[40]

However, the peace talks in Geneva face several obstacles: Two of the strongest rebel groups in Syria have not yet agreed to participate in the talks and most of the other fighting groups are almost entirely devoid of a central leader or organized leadership. Therefore, even if the Syrian National Coalition succeeds in reaching an agreement in Switzerland, it is reasonable to assume that certain rebel groups will reject it.[41] Hassan Nasrallah, the Secretary General of the Lebanese organization Hezbollah, which supports Bashar al-Assad, made a point of repeating that his organization is expected to face a "long road ahead" in Syria.[42] One way or another, and despite Nasrallah's proclamations, both the rebels and the political opposition are convinced that any negotiation must be based on first removing Bashar al-Assad from power.[43]

Despite the difficulties entailed in the above-mentioned diplomatic processes, it seems that the international community can still enjoy a degree of satisfaction after the delegation of inspectors sent by the United Nations to dismantle Syria's chemical weapons stockpiles announced that it had found only one chemical weapons site – [and marked it] for destruction.[44]

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http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/syria-rebels-recapture-army-base-near-aleppo-2013119153526111282.html;
http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/syrian-troops-offensive-damascus-aleppo-20131112194719257687.html;
http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/syrian-troops-make-further-gains-damascus-20131113194137435130.html (all in English).
[40] http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/10/syrian-rebels-reject-geneva-peace-talks-20131027125829872327.html;
http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/syria-opposition-agrees-geneva-peace-talks-2013111111259120364.html;
http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/syria-opposition-coalition-picks-cabinet-2013111261443871405.html (all in English).
[41] http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/10/syrian-rebels-reject-geneva-peace-talks-20131027125829872327.html (English).
[42] http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/nasrallah-hezbollah-syria-long-haul-2013111414617430132.html (English).
[43] http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/envoy-says-no-syria-talks-without-opposition-20131117325776602.html (English).
[44] http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/but-one-syria-chemical-site-checked-201311710565872278.html (English).

But make no mistake, the situation in Syria continues to be grave and according to the United Nations approximately 9.3 million Syrians are in need of humanitarian foreign aid in order to survive and to encourage the continuation of peace talks.[45]

The Al-Nusra Front

- During the first half of November 2013, the media institution of the Al-Nusra Front, Al-Manarah Al-Bayda, published the following:
    - o Announcements (Nos. 426-432) claiming responsibility for various terrorist attacks against Syrian security forces.[46]
    - o A video titled, "Progress of the Battles", documenting a suicide attack carried out by a member of the Al-Nusra Front. The activist was filmed wrapped in the flag of the movement while standing on a truck packed with explosive materials, which [later] exploded at the Al-Kaziyyah and Maghsalah checkpoints, near the Dayr al-Zawr airport in eastern Syria. In his last will and testament, the activist said that the best people were the ones who were fighting and sacrificing themselves in Allah's honor, and that the real men could be found in Al-Sham where they were defending Islam.[47]
- During the first half of November 2013, the jihadist news agency Hemm, which tracks developments in Syria in general and the actions of Al-Nusra Front members in particular, published the following:
    - o A video (No. 38) documenting a visit to the site of the Shari'a Council in eastern Dayr al-Zawr.
    - o A video (No. 39) documenting the distribution of cash and food packages among residents of Dar'a by Al-Nusra Front activists.[48]
    - o A video (No. 40) documenting a visit by members of Al-Nusra Front to a hospital in eastern Al-Ghawta near Damascus.[49]
    - o A video (No. 41) documenting a tour of the front lines of the Al-Nusra Front in the Al-Jabaliyyah neighborhood in Dayr al-Zawr.[50]
- A visitor to the Snam Al-Islam jihadist Web forum published a report by members of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham in Al-Hasakah Province in northeastern Syria. According

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[45] http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/un-estimates-40-percent-syrians-need-aid-201311543349947959.html (English).
[46] https://shamikh1.info/vb (Arabic).
[47] http://www.hanein.info/vb (Arabic).
[48] https://twitter.com/Hemm_Agency
[49] https://twitter.com/Hemm_Agency
[50] https://twitter.com/Hemm_Agency

to the report, members of the organization successfully liberated several villages in the province from the control of Kurdish militias.[51]

- The Al-Sham Center jihadist Web portal, which is published in Russian and focuses on the arena of jihad in Syria, published a biographical video about Abu Muslim al-Shishani, a prominent Salafi-jihadist field commander in Latikiyya, Syria.[52]

According to various sources, al-Shishani is affiliated with the Al-Nusra Front in Syria. Al-Shishani arrived in Syria via the Turkish border in May 2012 and quickly earned a reputation as a cruel and skilled warrior among Syrian and foreign Islamist rebels. For instance, he was credited with the decapitation of Syrian regime supporters in areas liberated by rebel forces.

The banner of the biographical video of Abu Muslim al-Shishani
(the title is in German but the video itself is in Russian)

The Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham: Operations in Syria

- During the first half of November 2013, the jihadist media institution of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS), Al-'Itisam, published the following:
  - A video titled, "Window to the Land of Wars (Part 23)", in which members of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham interviewed residents of northwestern Aleppo Province after driving out fighters from the Badr Martyrs Brigade, which is affiliated with the Free Syrian Army. According to the video, the Badr Martyrs Brigade first attacked ISIS activists and, after the battle, the latter found money, drugs and alcohol in their possession. It also claimed that Badr Martyrs Brigade fighters had abducted Muslims and negotiated with their families for ransom money.[53]

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[51] http://snamalislam.com/vb (Arabic).
[52] http://shamcenter.info/shamcenter-биография-муслима-шишани/ (Russian).
[53] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic).

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**The drugs claimed to have been found at the residence of the
Badr Martyrs Brigade following the battle in northwestern Syria**

o A video titled, "Window to the Land of Wars (Part 24)", documenting da'wah (Islamic preaching) activities being carried out by members of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham for dozens of people in one of the communities in Aleppo Province, in praise of jihad.[54]
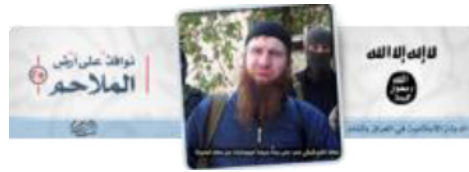

The video banner

o A video titled, "Window to the Land of Wars (Part 25)", documenting the participation of activists from the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham in several battle arenas in eastern Aleppo Province. The mujahideen filmed in the video expressed their joy in fighting while being bombarded by Syrian army forces and happily displayed the burned bodies of Hezbollah activists that they found on the battleground.

One of the speakers in the video was Abu Omar al-Shishani, a jihad activist originally from the Caucasus who serves as a commander for the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham in the northern province of Syria. Al-Shishani emphasized the strategic importance of eastern Aleppo for the mujahideen as a meeting point between the Al-Safira region in the south, the Al-Kuwayris Airport in the east, and the Aleppo International Airport in the southeast. Al-Shishani warned that after the battle in the east, the Syrian army will focus its efforts on northern Aleppo, and he plead with

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[54] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic).

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fighters in other battalions not to "take a back seat" but rather to provide support in repelling the regime's forces on the eastern front.[55]

The video banner

o A video titled, "Window to the Land of Wars (Part 26)", in which Kurdish fighters in the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS) threatened "all of the infidels in the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the secular camp in Kurdistan, especially those who support the fight against terrorism", including the Kurdish security and intelligence systems, that the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham would avenge the deaths of "thousands of Muslims" who had been killed and degraded in "the infidels' prisons".

The ISIS fighters accused the Kurdish parties of allowing them to be killed, harming their interests and stealing the property of the Muslim brethren, and promised that the democratic parties would be defeated just like the infidel members of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) and Bashar al-Assad's Alawite gangs, despite their large numbers and powerful weapons.

The video ended by documenting a suicide attack that was carried out by a Kurdish ISIS member, using a car bomb at a PKK military camp in Al-Qamishli on the Syria-Turkey border.[56]

The video banner

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[55] http://www.hanein.info/vb; (Arabic);
http://www.kavkazcenter.com/arab/content/2013/08/07/9078.shtml
[56] http://www.hanein.info/vb (Arabic); http://www.pdksp.org/arabic-ar;
http://www.birati.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=26&Itemid=32

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- o A video (No. 3) including a collection of photos of members of the organization in the framework of a video series titled, "Photos From the Land of Wars".[57]
- The Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham in Aleppo Province published an announcement regarding the Badr Martyrs Brigade, a unit operating on behalf of Ahrar Syria and affiliated with the Free Syrian Army.[58] In the announcement, the organization criticized the Badr Martyrs Brigade, led by Khaled Hayyani, claiming that its members had carried out a series of crimes during the war in Syria, such as looting Syrian civilians' property, carrying out abductions and ransom demands, forcefully seizing farmlands, drug dealing and drug use, and the intentional harming of mujahideen fighting against Bashar al-Assad's regime. According to the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham, the self-restraint shown by the organization towards the brigade despite its above-mentioned crimes can no longer continue, especially in light of the fact that members of the brigade had ignored the warning by the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham to stop their criminal acts. In light of this, the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham decided to launch a military campaign aimed at destroying the brigade's strongholds and operating against its members. "We call on all soldiers in the Badr Martyrs Brigade in and around Aleppo to surrender themselves to justice by the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham in accordance with Islamic law, and to declare their return to the correct path."
- The supervisor of the Hanein jihadist Web forum reported on a competition in which contestants had to memorize various chapters of the Qur'an as well as 100 canonical Islamic traditions, organized by members of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham for residents of Al-Mashhad in Aleppo. According to the rules of the competition, contestants were given one month to prepare and the cash prize for winners was set at 250 dollars for the memorization of one chapter, 100 dollars for the memorization of an additional chapter, and 150 dollars for the memorization of 100 canonical traditions.[59]
- A visitor to the Hanein jihadist Web forum posted photos of the spoils that he claimed were plundered from the Badr Martyrs Brigade, a movement affiliated with the Free Syrian Army, by members of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham after a battle that took place between the two groups in the mountainous 'Anadan and Huraytan region in northwest Syria. This included photos of jewelry, cash, gas canisters, drugs and weapons.[60]

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[57] https://shamikh1.info/vb (Arabic).
[58] https://twitter.com/a5bar7alab
[59] http://www.hanein.info/vb (Arabic).
[60] http://www.hanein.info/vb (Arabic); http://halabnews.com/news/41378

Photos posted to the Web forum of the gas canisters, cash and jewelry seized by the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham

General

- A prominent visitor to the Al-Jihad Al-Alami jihadist Web forum published a speech by Sheikh Abdallah Bin Abd al-Rahman al-Saad, in which he called on the mujahideen to Syria to unite. He emphasized that the spirit of Islam is one of unity among Muslims and that the blood of Muslims is dear – it may not be spilled as a result of unnecessary internal conflicts. The mujahideen in Syria need to stop fighting one another and focus the fight against their common enemy, Bashar al-Assad, and his downfall.[61]

- The Haqq Islamic news agency, which publishes news about the mujahideen, published a video documenting Islamic fighters who came from England to Syria in order to fight against the Syrian regime. The video was made by a Canadian media company called VICE Media.[62]

Jordan

- Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Maqdisi, a senior member of the Salafi-jihadist movement in Jordan, wrote a letter from the Jordanian prison where he is being held to members of the movement, in which he condemned the Egyptian military regime's oppression of the Muslim Brotherhood and called on members to help them. In his letter, al-Maqdisi emphasized that he and members of the Salafi-jihadist movement do not consider members of the Muslim Brotherhood to be infidels, but rather they view them as Muslims despite their differences of opinion. Al-Maqdisi went on to accuse the Gulf States and other countries of aiding the revolution in Egypt.

  In an interview for the Qatari Al-Jazeera network, a member of the Salafi-jihadist movement said that the above-mentioned letter was designed to clarify matters and end the dispute between members of the Salafi-jihadist movement and the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt.[63]

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[61] http://shabakataljahad.com/vb (Arabic).
[62] http://www.dawaalhaq.com/?p=7969
[63] http://www.dawaalhaq.com/?p=7901

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The Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip

On November 1, 2013, Abdul Fatah Hassan Hussein, leader of Al-Takfir wal-Hijra, was arrested in the Sinai Peninsula. According to the army, Hussein was considered one of the most prominent and most-wanted terrorists in Egypt.[64]

On November 7, 2013, an Egyptian soldier was killed by sniper fire in the Sinai Peninsula.[65] A week later, a policeman and three armed militants were killed in Al-Arish in the northern Sinai Peninsula after the militants broke into the policeman's home and opened fire on him in front of his family. The militants were later killed by security forces.[66]

On November 5, 2013, Hamas spokesman, Sami Abu-Zahri, declared that the media was distorting Hamas's image with regard to the events transpiring in the Sinai Peninsula. According to Abu-Zahri, the media was implying that Hamas was involved in the conflict in Egypt even though Hamas has repeatedly emphasized that it is not party to the events and is not interested in being an enemy of Egypt.[67]

- During the first half of November 2013, the jihadist media institution Ibn Taymiyya, responsible for publications regarding the Salafi-jihadist movement in the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip, published the following:
    - An audio clip by Yosri Ibn 'Atiyyah al-Masri from inside an Israeli jail where he is serving a 20-year prison sentence (10 of which he has already served). Al-Masr is a member of the Salafi-jihadist movement in the Gaza Strip and previously lived in Dayr al-Balah in the Gaza Strip. He was arrested in 2003 by Israeli security forces for terrorist acts and was sentenced to 20 years in an Israeli prison. In the audio message, al-Masri plead with the Palestinian people to continue to wage jihad against Israel.

        In recent weeks, the media has reported that al-Masri, who had battled thyroid cancer in his early 30's, had been transferred from Nafhah Hospital to the Israeli Soroka Hospital in Be'er Sheva in order to receive treatment [at the time].[68]

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[64] http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2013/11/01/takfir-wal-hijra-leader-arrested-in-sinai/ (English).

[65] http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2013/11/07/sniper-kills-soldier-in-sinai/ (English).

[66] http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2013/11/14/policeman-and-three-militants-killed-in-sinai/ (English).

[67] http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2013/11/05/hamas-says-media-falsely-implicating-it-in-egyptian-affairs/ (English).

[68] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic); http://www.dawaalhaq.com/?p=8021;
https://www.facebook.com/YosryAlmasry;
http://www.bokra.net/Articles/1224673/%D8%A3%D8%B7%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%A1_%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%84%D8%BA%D9%88%D9%86_%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B3%D9%8A%D8%B1_%D9%8A%D8%B3%D8%B1%D9%8A_%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B5%D8%B1%D9%8A_%D8%A8%D8%A3%D9%86%D9%87_%

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The banner of the audio message

- Visitors to the Ansar Al-Mujahideen jihadist Web forum expressed joy over the terrorist attack that was carried out by a 16-year-old resident of Jenin, who stabbed a soldier to death on a passenger bus in the Israeli city of Afula on November 13, 2013. In response to the report, one of the visitors addressed Muslims in Palestine and plead with them to carry out more "lone wolf" attacks. In recent weeks, the media in Israel has reported an increase in such operations.[69]

- A prominent visitor to the Snam Al-Islam jihadist Web forum published an announcement in which it noted a long list of Israeli targets for potential terrorist attacks. The announcement included their location, characteristics (tourist site, military site, strategic importance, etc.) and photos. The announcement mainly included sites in southern Israel, in the Negev or near Eilat and the Egyptian border, including the Taba border crossing, hotels in Eilat, Sderot, the Eilat Airport, Kibbutz Revivim and Mitzpe Ramon.[70]

Left: an aerial view of Eilat; Right: The Taba border crossing

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D9%85%D8%B5%D8%A7%D8%A8_%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D8%B1%D8%B7%D8%A7%D9%86..html
[69] http://www.as-ansar.com/vb (Arabic).
[70] http://snamalislam.com/vb (Arabic).

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The Maghreb [North Africa]

Even though the media is constantly reporting that several countries in the Sahara are investing their best resources to tighten their security (most notably: Libya,[71] Niger,[72] Tunisia,[73] Algeria[74] and Morocco[75]), security experts from the Maghreb and Europe believe that the Maghreb and the Sahara are located "in the eye of the storm", as they stated at the end of the security summit that was held at the beginning of November in Nouakchott, the capital of Mauritania. Among the topics discussed at the summit was the spread of security instability from the Maghreb to the Sahel against the backdrop of the Arab Spring revolutions.[76]

One of the speakers at the conference also discussed the problematic situation in Mali and explained that after the defeat of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) affiliates in Operation Serval (2013), the same terrorists are now returning and renewing their activities on Mali's vast territorial space. In addition, he claimed that apart from those cities under the command of soldiers from the French army and from the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), the central authorities in Mali have no real control over events currently taking place in the north of the country.[77] This was also proven true in light of the increasing concern of residents of Ouzoud Province over the departure of foreign forces set for January 2014,[78] and against the backdrop of the unhindered abduction and murder of two French journalists in northern Mali at the start of November.[79]

Meanwhile, the security situation in the Maghreb continues to be fragile, especially in Libya, which is about to hold elections. One of the worst terrorist attacks in the fragmented country took place near an electoral office in Benghazi, and a spokesman for the Benghazi Joint Security Room said that the attack was a clear attempt to disrupt the elections.[80] On the other

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[71] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/06/feature-01;
http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/07/feature-03;
http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/12/feature-01 (all in English).
[72] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/12/feature-02 (English).
[73] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/04/feature-01;
http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/06/feature-03;
http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/08/feature-04;
http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/13/feature-01 (all in English).
[74] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/12/feature-04;
http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/14/feature-01 (both in English).
[75] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/01/feature-02;
http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/05/feature-02 (both in English).
[76] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/08/feature-02 (English).
[77] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/08/feature-02 (English).
[78] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/10/25/feature-02 (English).
[79] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/04/feature-02 (English).
[80] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/features/2013/11/01/feature-01 (English).

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hand, and with perfect timing, members of the Libyan Salafi-jihadist movement, Ansar Al-Shari'a, demanded the implementation of Islamic law in the country. A media report covering the announcement stated that Ansar Al-Shari'a's agenda was clear; "Today Derna – Tomorrow all of Libya".[81]

Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb

- The jihadist media institution of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Al-Andalus, published a video of a sermon titled, "Keep Your Tongue" by Sheikh Abu Yahya al-Shinqiti, a member of AQIM's Shari'a Council. The sermon was the third in a series of new publications titled, "Say, 'I believe in Allah' and then be Steadfast", which was first published towards the end of August 2013.[82]

Ansar Al-Shari'a in Libya

- Against the backdrop of the involvement of several Libyan parties in drafting a constitution, Ansar Al-Shari'a, a Salafi-jihadist organization that many believe to be affiliated with Al-Qaeda, published an announcement in which it claimed that the loss of security in Libya is inextricably linked to the absence of shari'a in the government. In addition, the announcement stated that many Libyan groups and political parties that are openly hostile to Islam were fighting one another in order to promote their narrow objectives at the expense of advancing the establishment of shari'a as the law of the country. In light of these events, it explained that Ansar Al-Shari'a views every Muslim as a supporter, on the condition that he acts accordingly and distances himself from the political struggle currently being waged in Libya between all of the parties, as it is not being waged for the sake of implementing shari'a.[83]

Somalia

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[81] http://magharebia.com/en_GB/articles/awi/reportage/2013/11/15/reportage-01 (English).

[82] http://al-fidaa.com/vb (Arabic).

[83] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic);
http://www.alarabiya.net/ar/north-africa/libya/2013/11/10/%D8%B7%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%82-
%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D9%8A%D9%82%D8%B1%D8%B1%D9%88%D9%86-
%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B4%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%83%D8%A9-%D9%81%D9%8A-
%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%AA%D8%AE%D8%A7%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%AA-
%D8%AA%D8%A3%D8%B3%D9%8A%D8%B3%D9%8A%D8%A9-
%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AF%D8%B3%D8%AA%D9%88%D8%B1.html;
http://ara.reuters.com/article/topNews/idARACAE9B2GWZ20131114 (Arabic).

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On November 8, 2013, at least eight people, including four police officers, were killed in a car bombing in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, and 15 others were injured. [84]

- After the major terrorist attack that was carried out by Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen (an affiliate of Al-Qaeda) in Nairobi, Kenya, on September 21, 2013, several visitors to the official jihadist Web forum of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham expressed great interest in the organization's warnings of more attacks, which were reported in African countries including Ethiopia, Somalia and Uganda. [85]

Sudan

- The Al-Qabidun Ala Al-Jamar jihadist media institution published on the Snam Al-Islam Web forum the transcript of a speech given by Abu-Osama al-Ansari, leader of the Sudanese organization, Ansar Al-Muslimin in the Land of Black Africans, in honor of Eid al-Adha ("Feast of the Sacrifice"). In his speech, al-Ansari said that the struggle between truth and falsehood is an ancient one that began when Allah revealed himself to the Prophet Muhammad, and is currently manifesting itself in the West's war against what it calls "Islamic terrorism". Al-Ansari called on all Muslims not to fall into the trap of believing the false reports of the Western media, as it is controlled by the same countries that helped overthrow Morsi's regime in Egypt - even though he came to power in a democratic manner - because they are not interested in having a Muslim government next to Israel. Al-Ansari added that the media does not report the crimes and atrocities taking place in northeaster Sudan against the mujahideen. He emphasized that despite the false reports, his organization was adhering to its principles: It does not attack innocents and it renounces any responsibility for attacks against civilian populations. Al-Ansari asked to take the opportunity to send regards in the name of Ansar Al-Muslimin to leaders of jihad around the world: Sheikh Ayman al-Zawahiri, Mullah Muhammed Omar, Abu-Bakir al-Baghdadi (leader of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham), Abu-Muhammed al-Golani (leader of the Al-Nusra Front), Abu-Basir Nasser al-Wahishi (leader of AQAP), Abu-Musab Abd al-Wudood (leader of AQIM), Mukhtar Abu-Zubayr (leader of Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen in Somalia), and Khaled Abu al-Abbas (aka Mokhtar Belmokhtar; a prominent Al-Qaeda activist in Tunisia). [86]

The Indian Subcontinent

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[84] http://news.walla.co.il/?w=//2693127 (Hebrew).
[85] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic).
[86] http://snamalislam.com/vb (Arabic).

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- The Fursan Al-Balagh jihadist media institution published on the Al-Jihad Al-Alami Web forum an official announcement by the mujahideen movement in eastern Indonesia, in which it claimed responsibility for a terrorist attack that took place in the city of Busso, Indonesia, on June 3, 2013. It declared that the purpose of the attack was to show that the mujahideen in Indonesia were joining in the spirit of the Islamic revolutions taking place in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and Palestine. The organization emphasized that the Americans were the real terrorists who need to be fought against.[87]

Iran

- The jihadist media institution of Ansar Iran, Al-Farouq, published a video documenting the training of members of the organization against Iranian security forces.[88]

The West

- A visitor to the Hanein jihadist Web forum shared an article that was published in the Egyptian newspaper, *Sada Al-Balad*, in which it was reported that a 23-year-old American named Paul Anthony Ciancia had opening fire at Los Angeles International Airport, killing a security worker and injuring approximately seven others. Even though the report said that shooting was not a terrorist attack, visitors to the forum expressed great interest in the incident.[89]

Miscellaneous

- The administrator of the Snam Al-Islam jihadist Web forum announced the forum's return to active status. After several weeks during which the forum was inactive, the team succeeded in solving the technical problems and getting the site back online.[90]

Facebook and Twitter

- The Ajnad jihadist media institution, which helps publish and distribute materials on behalf of the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham, published a poem titled, "Victory [is what] Comes

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[87] http://shabakataljahad.com/vb (Arabic).
[88] http://ansariran-en.blogspot.co.il/2013/11/alfarooq-media-video-release-training_8.html
[89] http://www.hanein.info/vb (Arabic); http://www.el-balad.com/section.aspx?name=ads
[90] http://snamalislam.com/vb (Arabic).

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With Tweeting", an apparent indication of the tremendous value of Internet use in general, and of social networking sites such as Twitter in particular – in promoting jihadist values.[91]

The video banner

- The Haqq Islamic news agency, which publishes news about the mujahideen, announced the re-launching of its Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/dawaalhaq) despite repeated attempts by enemies of Islam to shut it down.[92]

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[91] http://iraqsham.com/vb (Arabic).
[92] http://www.dawaalhaq.com/?p=7854

ABOUT THE ICT

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.

ABOUT THE JIHADI MONITORING GROUP

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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