

“ To America and the rest of Christendom, we say:
Either repent for your misguided ways and enter into the light of truth,
or keep your poison to yourself, and suffer the consequences
in this world and the next. ”

ADAM GADAHN, AMERICAN AL-QAEDA OPERATIVE

Islamist Ideology and Terror

Part II: Actions



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Introduction

Part I of this study surveyed Islamic extremist ideology. Part II explores some of the actions that have been taken around the world by Islamic extremists in the name of Islam. This section seeks to show that Islamism threatens the West not simply because it espouses an ideology hostile to democracy and liberal values—religious freedom, women’s rights, sexual rights, pluralism, among others—but also because it follows up on this ideology with violent actions. These extremists attack both the West and moderate Muslims who are accused of “cooperating” with Western countries.

While not all proponents of radical Islam act on their sentiments, some deeply believe that Islam compels them to carry out jihad, which in this case means violent holy war, in pursuit of these aims. Indonesian Islamist Abu Bakar Bashir, charged with complicity in the Bali terror attacks of 2002, expressed the urgency that Islamists feel to act on Islam’s principles: “The struggle for Islam can only come through crisis and confrontation. Remember that jihad is what brought Islam to power and built our community. There can be no Islam without jihad.”¹

The following pages offer only a sampling of recent violent activity around the world carried out in the cause of Islamic extremism. It is by no means meant to be exhaustive, but rather illustrative of what happens when fundamentalist ideology is wed with violent actions.

[1] Special Dispatch Series No. 1285, Middle East Media Research Institute, September 8, 2006.

Denmark

Islamic extremists amassed explosive material in Denmark.



On September 5, 2006, Danish police arrested nine Muslim extremists suspected of planning terrorist attacks. The police uncovered materials for the production of explosives.

These arrests followed an October 2005 raid that led to the capture of another seven Islamists in Denmark caught with weapons and explosives, whose aim was to commit terrorist attacks in Europe. One of those detained was arrested near a Bosnian airport carrying suicide vests and 65 pounds of explosives.



Danish flags, as well as embassies, were burnt around the world as a result of an independent Danish newspaper's decision to produce cartoons depicting Muhammad.

France

Famous landmarks and public events have been the target of foiled extremist plots in France.



The Notre Dame Cathedral of
Strasbourg

In December 2000, four Muslim Al-Qaeda-trained males made a video in front of the Notre Dame Cathedral in Strasbourg as a part of their final preparations for an operation to bomb the cathedral and the market in front of it during New Year's celebrations.¹

"This cathedral [Notre Dame] is God's enemy.... Here we see the enemies of God [shoppers and tourists] as they stroll about. You will go to hell, God willing."²

-- voice of one of the Notre Dame plotters in the preparation video

The men planned much of the attack from an apartment in Frankfurt, Germany, where police found a bomb-making laboratory and seized a detonation device, machine guns, rifles with long-distance sights, \$14,000 in cash, fake passports, and the homemade video.³

In another incident, in October 2001, French police seized explosives and arrested four Islamic extremists who allegedly planned to attack a stadium full of 80,000 people at a French-Algerian soccer game the following day.⁴

[1] "Men Stand Trial for Bomb Attempt on Strasbourg," *Washington Post*, April 16, 2002.

[2] Sheila MacVicar and Henry Schuster, "Journalist Penetrated Islamic Extremist Groups in Paris," *CNN*, February 20, 2003.

[3] Zachary Johnson, "Chronology: The Plots," *Frontline: PBS*, July 2005.

[4] *Ibid.*

Germany

Extremist groups with Al-Qaeda ties have targeted popular destinations in Germany.



Berlin's Jewish Museum, the target of a 2002 plot

In 2002, one of Düsseldorf's discos and Berlin's Jewish Museum were targets of a terrorist plot by Shadi Abdellah, a member of the Al-Tawhid terrorist organization. The group's head, Abu-Musab al-Zarqawi, was the number two leader of Al-Qaeda in Iraq until he was killed on June 7, 2006.

Abdellah was arrested for allegedly ordering a pistol with a silencer and a crate of hand grenades. Later in court he admitted to taking part in courses on how to produce poisons and use them in food, as well as attending seminars on planning and implementing terror attacks.

"We hadn't yet decided whether we would do it [bomb the Düsseldorf disco and Berlin Jewish Museum] with a car bomb or some other way."

-- Shadi Abdellah, 26, a member of Al-Tawhid terrorist organization

[Source] Andreas Rehnolt, "Jordanian Terror Suspect Says Group Planned to Attack Berlin's Jewish Museum, Duesseldorf Disco," Associated Press, July 4, 2003.

Great Britain

Terrorists targeted Londoners on their way to work.



Bus hit in the 7/7 terrorist attacks

On July 7, 2005, suicide bombers hit London, killing 52 and injuring 770 people.¹

“You [The West] will be our targets.... We [Muslims] are at war, and I am a soldier. Now you, too, will taste the reality of this situation.”²

-- Mohammad Sidique Khan, one of the 7/7 suicide bombers

Khan was one of four suicide bombers to attack London’s public transportation system during the busy morning commute. Three of the suicide bombers were born in Britain. After returning from a visit to Pakistan in February 2005, they began to plan the London attack.³

“London’s blessed raid is one of the raids which Jama’at Qa’idat al-Jihad [an Al-Qaeda group] was honored to launch.... May God have mercy on them, make paradise their final abode and accept their good deeds.”⁴

-- Ayman al-Zawahiri, Al-Qaeda leader, claiming Al-Qaeda ties to the 7/7 London attacks

[1] “7 July Bombings,” BBC News, July 2006.

[2] “Report of the Official Account of the Bombings in London on 7th July 2005,” House of Commons, May 10, 2006.

[3] Ibid.

[4] Ibid.

Great Britain

In England, a Muslim extremist father murdered his 16-year-old daughter because he disapproved of her Western dress and her Christian boyfriend.



In September 2003, Abdullah Yones was sentenced to life in prison by a British judge for stabbing his daughter, Heshu, to death because he disapproved of her Western dress and her Lebanese Christian boyfriend.¹ Yones became the first British citizen to be found guilty of committing an “honor killing.”²

An honor killing is a violent response by a close relative to a female member of the family bringing a “sense of shame” upon the rest of the family. Shame can be rendered on the family by a range of actions, including a female “wearing clothes or choosing a career which the family disapprove of, to marrying outside of the wider community.”³



Heshu Yones

Until recently, honor killings have mostly been limited to South Asian and Middle Eastern countries. With a surge in Muslim immigration to Western Europe in the last few decades, however, forced marriages and honor killings have become more common in Europe. In the United Kingdom alone, authorities believe that there may be up to twelve honor killings a year.⁴

[1] “Q&A: Honour Killings Explained,” www.bbc.co.uk, June 22, 2004.

[2] “Father Gets Life for ‘Honour’ Killing,” *Daily Telegraph*, September 29, 2003.

[3] “Q&A: Honour Killings Explained,” www.bbc.co.uk.

[4] Ibid.

Italy

Al-Qaeda operatives in Rome were found with cyanide, attempting to bomb the American embassy.



In January 2001, Italian authorities uncovered a plot by Al-Qaeda-linked extremists to bomb the U.S. embassy in Rome. The men arrested were found with large quantities of a cyanide compound, explosive powder, and maps of the water network around the embassy. This led to the arrest of the ringleader and director of Al-Qaeda in Italy, Essid Sami Ben Khemais, and four other Muslim extremists with ties to Osama bin Laden.



The U.S. embassy in Rome

Essid Sami Ben Khemais was trained in an Al-Qaeda camp in Afghanistan. He recruited members from Italy and had ties to terrorist cells throughout Europe, including the Strasbourg Christmas market plotters. Italian authorities found he had placed several calls to Mohammed Bensakhria, the leader of the Frankfurt cell, who was planning the Strasbourg attack.

[Source] Zachary Johnson, "Chronology: The Plots," *Frontline*: PBS, July 2005.

The Netherlands

An Islamist in Amsterdam killed a filmmaker and threatened to murder a Dutch parliamentarian for their criticism of Islam.



In November 2004, twenty-six-year-old Mohammed Bouyeri brutally murdered Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh on an Amsterdam street, shooting him and slitting his throat. The murder was motivated by Van Gogh's role as producer of *Submission*, a controversial film about violence against Muslim women.¹

The murderer pinned a five-page letter to Van Gogh's chest, which included a death threat against Ayaan Hirsi Ali. Ali, a Somali Muslim-born woman who sought asylum in the Netherlands, became a critic of Islam's treatment of women, and conceived and wrote the film. She was elected to the Dutch parliament. After Van Gogh's murder, she was forced into hiding for three months and has had to have twenty-four-hour security ever since.²



Dutch police with the body of Theo van Gogh after he was shot and stabbed to death

Islam will "drive evil back to its dark hole using the sword."³

-- Mohammed Bouyeri, in the letter he "pinned" to the chest of Van Gogh after murdering him

[1] "Gunman Kills Dutch Film Director," BBC, November 2, 2004.

[2] "Slaughter and Submission," CBS News, August 20, 2006, and "We Must Declare War on Islamist Propaganda," *Der Spiegel*, May 14, 2005.

[3] "From Civic Activist to Alleged Terrorist," *Washington Post*, November 28, 2004.

Norway

Islamist elements were plotting to blow up the Israeli and American embassies in Oslo and assassinate the Israeli ambassador.



Ansar al-Islam leader Mullah Krekar

In September 2006, Norwegian police arrested four men in connection with a shooting attack on an Oslo synagogue. The police later expanded the charges to include terrorism; the men allegedly had plotted to blow up the Israeli and American embassies in Norway, and reportedly also plotted to slit the throat of the Israeli ambassador to Norway, Miriam Shomrat.¹

Ansar al-Islam leader Mullah Krekar resides freely in Norway, despite the fact that the government has officially called for his expulsion from the country; Krekar has appealed the order and a court ruling is pending.² Ansar al-Islam, now known as Ansar al-Sunna, is a leading purveyor of attacks against coalition forces in Iraq and has ties with Al-Qaeda. It has claimed responsibility for numerous kidnappings, executions, and assassinations in Iraq.³

[1] "Police Accuse Four Suspected in Oslo Synagogue Attack of Embassy Terror Plot," Associated Press, September 22, 2006.

[2] "Norway, Country Reports on Terrorism," U.S. Department of State, 2005.

[3] Ibid.

Russia

Chechen separatists have embraced a jihadist mentality in fighting Russia.



On September 1, 2004, over thirty terrorists took more than 1,100 children and adults hostage at a Russian elementary school in Beslan, North Ossetia. The siege lasted three days, culminating in a fierce battle between the terrorists and Russian forces: 344 civilians were killed, 186 of them children, and hundreds more wounded. Chechen separatist leader Shamil Basayev, who was killed early in 2006 and had links to Al-Qaeda, took responsibility for the attack.¹

While Chechen Muslim guerrillas have been fighting for independence from Russia since the mid-1990s under a separatist ideology, some of the leaders have colluded with global jihad networks like Al-Qaeda. Especially following the Taliban's ascendance to power in Afghanistan in 1996, the Chechen separatists not only established ties with Osama bin Laden, but began receiving equipment and training assistance from Islamic guerrillas throughout the Middle East and South Asia.²

The Chechen leadership has grown increasingly radical and has embraced Islamist thinking. For example, Basayev's stated goals were not limited to Chechen independence, but included the more far-reaching objective of establishing Islamic rule in the North Caucasus.³

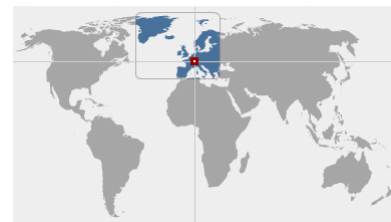
[1] "Putin Meets Angry Beslan Mothers," BBC News, September 2, 2005.

[2] "Afghanistan: Connections to Islamic Movements in Central and South Asia and Southern Russia," Congressional Research Service, December 7, 1999.

[3] Jim Nichol, "Chechnya Conflict: Recent Developments," Congressional Research Service, May 3, 2000.

Spain

Islamic extremists killed almost 200 people in Madrid.



Destruction of the 2004 Madrid train bombing

Four explosions rocked four Madrid trains during rush hour on March 11, 2004, killing 190 people and injuring 1,900 others.¹ The Abu Hafs al-Masri Brigades claimed responsibility for the Madrid attacks.² Established in 2001, after the death of Abu Hafs, a founding member of Al-Qaeda and training commander, the Brigades have orchestrated terrorist attacks in Iraq since 2003.³

“You [Spanish people] know that you are not safe.... We will kill you anywhere and in any manner.”⁴

-- Serhane ben Abdelmajid Fakhret, alleged mastermind of Madrid 3/11

“Praise be to God who granted us the victory of Madrid and destroyed one of the pillars of the evil Crusader axis.... The brigades’ death squads are at your doors and will hit with an iron hand at an appropriate time and in an appropriate place.... Time has no mercy and we are now gearing up for the next attack.”⁵

-- Abu Hafs al-Masri Brigades, letter to London-based *Al-Quds* newspaper after the 3/11 attacks

[1] “Threat Video in Spain Flat Rubble,” BBC News, April 9, 2004.

[2] “Madrid Train Attacks,” BBC News, Accessed September 10, 2006.

[3] Ahmed Janabi, “Profile: Abu Hafs al-Masri,” Aljazeera.net, March 13, 2004.

[4] “Threat Video in Spain Flat Rubble,” BBC.

[5] “Extract: ‘Al-Qaeda’ Warns of More Attacks,” BBC News, March 18, 2004.

Spain

Police thwarted terrorist plans by Islamic extremists to attack central buildings in Spain.



Spain's "twin towers," the target of a foiled 2005 terrorist plot

In 2005, ten Pakistani Islamic militants were arrested in Spain for plotting terrorist attacks in Barcelona, including the two buildings known as Spain's twin towers—the 40-story Mapfre Tower and the 44-story Hotel Arts.¹

In October 2004, Spain's National Police thwarted a plot to attack the National Court planned by Mohammed Achraf, who headed "Martyrs for Morocco." There have been other foiled attacks aimed at other buildings, train stations and the 75,000-seat arena of soccer team Real Madrid. Achraf is thought to have ties to Mohammed Bouyeri, the alleged killer of Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh.²

[1] Zachary Johnson, "Chronology: The Plots," *Frontline*: PBS, July 2005.

[2] Elaine Sciolino, "Spain Continues to Uncover Terrorist Plots," *New York Times*, March 19, 2005.

Sweden

Terrorist groups have been working in Sweden to train for terror attacks in Iraq.



These are three Iraqi men who were shot execution style in Iraq by the Army of Ansar Al-Sunnah for being "apostates." They were forced to "confess" their crime of cooperating with American forces.

"The Army of Ansar Al-Sunnah in Sweden are well-trained to defend our holy countries ... having established a mujahideen training camp, located in Skane [a region in southern Sweden] ... with the help from Allah."¹
-- an Islamist Web site claiming to speak for Ansar Al-Sunnah, the Iraqi terrorist group

The Army of Ansar Al-Sunnah, founded in September 2003, is an Islamist militant group based in Iraq. It is believed to have links with Al-Qaeda. This organization has been responsible for hundreds of deaths through beheading, executions, and suicide operations in Iraq.²

The last statement of one Ansar Al-Sunnah suicide bomber, Abu-Thabit al-Muhajir, who killed and wounded dozens of Americans in an operation in Iraq, was, "[O] you brokers of the West: We are coming and will trample you underfoot. To all the mujahideen, continue and we are with you until we get back Al-Aqsa [in Jerusalem] and Andalusia [in Spain] and know that victory comes with patience and the jihad in the cause of Allah."³

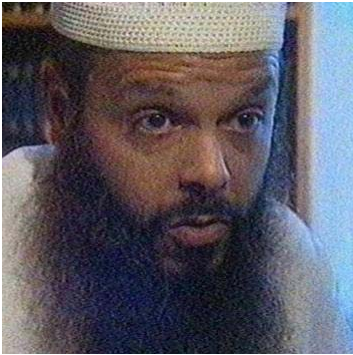
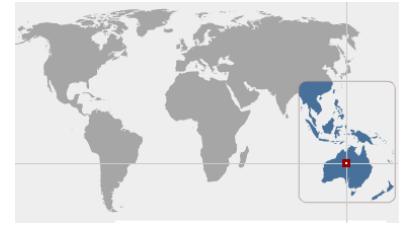
[1] James Brandon, "Sweden's Rising Muslim Tide," *Christian Science Monitor*, December 6, 2005.

[2] "Mysterious Iraqi Terror Group Gains Clout," *MSNBC.com*, December 25, 2004.

[3] "Ansar al-Sunnah Army's First Video," *WhyWar.com*, February 21, 2004.

Australia

An Al-Qaeda cell in Australia was discovered with chemicals capable of creating destruction on the scale of the London bombings.



Muslim cleric Abu Bakr, one of seventeen extremists arrested in the November 2005 raid³

An Al-Qaeda cell in Australia was exposed in November 2005, when seventeen Muslim extremists were arrested. The police had been shadowing the group for sixteen months, observing as they purchased 300 liters of chemicals and arranged for the pick-up of heat tablets and peroxide. These ingredients are used to make two kinds of homemade explosives – identical to the acetone-based explosives used in the London subway bombings.¹ The police also found reading material on jihad, including the book, *Islamic Ruling with Regard to the Killing of Women, Children and the Elderly in a Situation of War*.²

“You shouldn’t kill just one, two or three ... do a big thing.”

-- Abu Bakr, cell leader

“Like Madrid?”

-- Abdullah Merhi, a would-be martyr

“That’s it.”

-- Abu Bakr⁴

[1] Richard Esposito, “Australian Terror Network Operating for More than Three Years,” ABC.com, November 8, 2005.

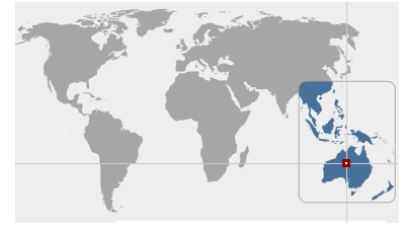
[2] Natasha Robinson, “Case for the Prosecution,” *Australian*, September 2, 2006.

[3] Richard Esposito, “Australian Terror Network Operating for More than Three Years”.

[4] Natasha Robinson, “Case for the Prosecution.”

Bali

A bomb set off by Islamists killed hundreds of tourists in Bali.



The aftermath of the 2002 bombing in Bali

In 2002, bombs exploded at a nightclub in Bali's tourist district near the U.S. honorary consulate, killing 202 people from 24 countries, the majority from Australia.¹

Jemaah Islamiyah (JI), a Southeast Asian Islamic terrorist group with alleged links to Al-Qaeda, planned the attacks. It has also been responsible for major attacks in Southeast Asia, including Indonesia. Its ultimate goal is to create an Islamic state in the region.²

"I'll be happy to die a martyr.... After me there will be a million more Amrozis."³

-- Amrozi bin Nurhasyim, found guilty of conspiring, planning, and carrying out the 2002 Bali night club bombings. He grinned as the judge read the guilty verdict and then gave the courtroom a thumbs-up sign. His brother is believed to be the mastermind of the plot.

[1] "2002: Dozens Killed in Bali Nightclub Explosion," BBC News, October 12, 2002.

[2] "Jemaah Islamiya," Federation of American Scientists, accessed September 20, 2006.

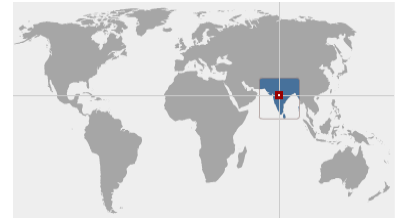
[3] "2003: Bali Bomber Smiles at Guilty Verdict," BBC News, August 7, 2003.

India

Islamic extremists tied to Al-Qaeda bombed Mumbai's trains, killing and maiming hundreds.

On July 11, 2006, seven trains along Mumbai's main suburban railway line were bombed, killing close to 200 people and injuring over 700. Experts widely agree that a Pakistani Muslim extremist group with close ties to Al-Qaeda, Lashkar-e-Taiba (Army of the Pure), was responsible for the attack.¹

The goals of Lashkar-e-Taiba include the restoration of Islamic rule over all parts of India. The group propagates a narrow Islamic fundamentalism based on the Wahhabi sect. It seeks to bring about a union of all Muslim majority regions in countries that surround Pakistan. Lashkar-e-Taiba is also a member of Osama bin Laden's International Islamic Front for Jihad against the U.S. and Israel.²



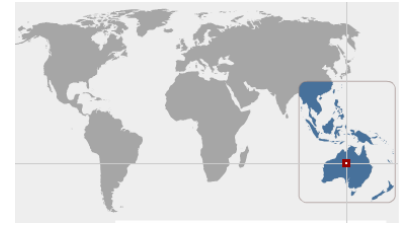
One of the trains bombed in Mumbai

[1] "Call this Peace?: Terror in Mumbai," *Economist*, July 15, 2006.

[2] "Lashkar-e-Taiba," Terrorism Knowledge Database, August 27, 2006.

Indonesia

Islamists have carried out deadly attacks in Indonesia.



The 2003 Marriott Hotel bombing by JI

In 2003, Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) exploded a car bomb during the busy lunch hour near the lobby of the Marriott Hotel in Jakarta, killing thirteen people and injuring 120 others.¹

In another incident in 2004, a suicide car bomb outside of the Australian embassy in Jakarta killed nine people and injured 160 others. Azahari Husin, a British-trained Malaysian engineer and one of Asia's most wanted men, is suspected of helping with the attack, as is Jemaah Islamiyah.²

“We decided to call Australia to account, which we consider one of the worst enemies of God.... Here we were able to call it to account today in Jakarta, where one of the mujahideen [holy warriors] was able to execute a martyrdom operation with a car bomb in front of the embassy.”³

-- posting on an Islamist Web site claiming responsibility for the attack on Australia's embassy

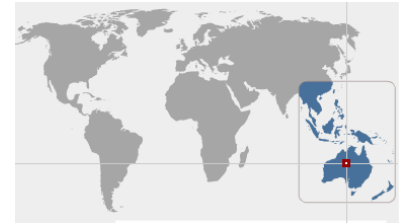
[1] “Bomb Wrecks Top Jakarta Hotel,” BBC News, August 5, 2003.

[2] “Massive Blast at Jakarta Embassy,” BBC News, September 9, 2004.

[3] “Islamist Group Appears to Claim Jakarta Blast,” Associated Press, September 10, 2004.

Philippines

Massive amounts of TNT were discovered in the hands of an Islamist organization in the Philippines.



One of the targeted train lines in Manila

Four men who belonged to the Muslim terrorist organization, Abu Sayyaf (Father of the Sword) were arrested in Manila on March 30, 2004, with 80 pounds of TNT explosives. They had plans to bomb trains and malls around Manila, and hoped to inflict damage on the scale of the Madrid attacks, which killed nearly 200 people.¹

One of those arrested, Redondo Dellosa, also claimed credit for a February 2004 bombing in Manila, which had left more than 100 passengers dead.²

Another of those arrested, Hasan Sayyaf, was behind the beheading of a kidnapped American, Guillermo Sobero, in 2001.³

Abu Sayyaf is the most extreme of the anti-government groups. It calls for an independent Islamic state in Mindanao, a poor region of the Philippines. Experts believe that it maintains ties to Al-Qaeda.⁴

[1] "Philippines Bomb Plot 'Thwarted'," BBC News, March 30, 2004.

[2] Ibid.

[3] Ibid.

[4] "Terrorism Havens: Philippines," Council on Foreign Relations, December 2005.

Egypt

Since the 1990s, Islamic terrorists in Egypt have targeted foreign tourists in attacks.



The destruction of the Ghazala Gardens Hotel caused by a terrorist attack

In one of the most deadly attacks in Egypt, Islamic extremists hit the Egyptian resort of Sharm al-Sheikh at the height of the summer tourist season in July 2005.

Three blasts killed 88 and injured more than 200 people. Most of the dead were Egyptians, but foreigners also died.

One bomb exploded at the Old Market, killing seventeen Egyptian workers at a street café; two others hit near the Moevenpick Hotel and the Ghazala Gardens Hotel. A section of the Ghazala Gardens Hotel collapsed, trapping victims in the rubble.

The Abdullah Azzam Brigades and Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for the attacks.

[Source] "Toll Climbs in Egyptian Attacks," BBC News, July 23, 2005.

Israel

Israel has endured hundreds of attacks and thousands of attempted attacks at the hands of Palestinian extremists.



A particularly horrifying example of such attacks took place on March 27, 2002, when a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up in the dining room of the Park Hotel in Netanya, killing 30 and wounding over 100, many of them children. Hamas claimed responsibility for the attack, which occurred on Passover Eve, with about 250 people sitting down to eat a traditional Seder meal.¹



The aftermath of the bombing
in the Park Hotel

While Hamas and other Palestinian terror groups have concentrated most of their attacks on Israelis, they have also targeted foreigners, such as an American diplomatic convoy in Gaza in October 2003. The Popular Resistance Committee, an umbrella organization representing a number of Islamist terror groups, including Hamas, claimed responsibility for the attack, which killed three American security guards and severely wounded a diplomat.²

For Hamas the conflict is not limited to Israel, but is instead global in scale.

“Tomorrow, our nation will sit on the throne of the world. This is not a figment of the imagination, but a fact. Tomorrow we will lead the world, Allah willing.”³

-- Khalid Al-Mish'al, leader of Hamas, on Al-Jazeera TV

[1] “Bomb Kills at Least 19 in Israel as Arabs Meet Over Peace Plan,” *New York Times*, March 28, 2002.

[2] “Palestinians Bomb U.S. Convoy,” *Guardian*, October 16, 2003.

[3] Clip No. 1024, Middle East Media Research Institute, February 3, 2006.

Jordan

In Jordan, Islamic extremists killed fellow Muslims at a wedding celebration.



In 2005, four Iraqi suicide bombers set out to attack Western hotels in Amman, Jordan, under the guidance of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, Al-Qaeda's leader in Iraq. Three of the suicide bombers detonated their bombs, killing 67 people and wounding more than 150 others.¹ The fourth would-be suicide bomber, a woman married to the alleged suicide bomb organizer, fled the scene.²



Sajida al-Rishawi, the would-be suicide bomber

“There was a wedding ceremony in the hotel. There were women, men and children. My husband took a corner and I took another one. My husband detonated his bomb, and I tried to detonate mine but failed.... People fled running, and I left running with them.”³

-- Sajida Mubarak Atrous al-Rishawi, the “fourth suicide bomber”

The bombers targeted the Radisson SAS, the Grand Hyatt, and Days Inn hotels. At the Radisson SAS, the terrorists hit a wedding party, killing ten of the groom's relatives.⁴

[1] “Hotel Blasts Kill Dozens in Jordan,” CNN, November 14, 2005.

[2] “Bomber Confession Shocks Jordan,” CNN, November 14, 2005.

[3] “Transcript: Confession by Accused Jordan Bomber,” CNN, November 13, 2005.

[4] “Bomber Confession Shocks Jordan,” CNN.

Morocco

Moroccan Islamists killed dozens in several attacks across Casablanca.



King Muhammed VI visiting the wounded victims of Casablanca suicide bombing

On May 16, 2003, twelve suicide bombers struck numerous targets in a coordinated attack in Casablanca, killing 45 and wounding 100 others. The Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group was responsible for the attack.¹

The attacks targeted the Belgian consulate, a Spanish restaurant, a social club, a Jewish community center, and a hotel. They killed mainly Moroccans, but also six Europeans—two Spaniards, two Italians, and two French.² The Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group, an extremist organization led by Moustapha Baouchi, was responsible for the attack. The organization is also associated with the March 2004 Madrid train bombings.

“In effect, we were a group united in jihad.... This jihad could well have taken place in Morocco, or in any other country that we chose to destabilize. Our group was ready because we possessed the military training.”³

-- Moustapha Baouchi, in his interrogation by French police

[1] Zachary Johnson, “Chronology: The Plots,” *Frontline*: PBS, July 2005.

[2] “Terror Blasts Rock Casablanca,” BBC News, May 17, 2003.

[3] Craig Whitlock, “How a Town Became a Terror Hub,” *Washington Post*, November 4, 2005.

Turkey

Islamic extremists wreaked havoc for a month in Istanbul.



In November 2003, four separate explosions rocked Istanbul, killing at least 60 and wounding 750 others. A local Al-Qaeda cell claimed responsibility for all of the attacks.¹

“They [suicide bombers] planned and carried out the attack independently after receiving the blessing of Bin Laden.”²
-- Turkish intelligence official summarizing the statement of Fevzi Yitiz. Yitiz confessed that he helped make the bombs for the Turkish attacks and was trained by Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan.



The chaos after the November 2003 truck bombings in Istanbul

British Consul General Roger Short was killed in a truck bomb attack on the British consulate. Short, 58, served as consul general in Istanbul beginning in 2001. From 1999-2000, he oversaw peace-building efforts in Bosnia-Herzegovina.³

That same day, a truck exploded outside the HSBC bank.⁴

Five days before, two suicide truck bombs detonated outside of the Neve Shalom and Beth Israel synagogues.⁵

[1] Zachary Johnson, “Chronology: The Plots,” *Frontline*: PBS, July 2005.

[5] Ibid.

[2] “Bin Laden Allegedly Planned Attack in Turkey,” Associated Press, December 17, 2003.

[3] “Istanbul Truck-Bomb Attacks Kill 27,” Fox News, November 20, 2003.

[4] Zachary Johnson, “Chronology: The Plots.”

Argentina

Hezbollah operatives attacked in Buenos Aires.

On July 18, 1994, it is believed that Hezbollah suicide bomber Ibrahim Hussein Berro, a Lebanese citizen, detonated explosives packed in a van outside the Buenos Aires Jewish community center, Argentine Israelite Mutual Aid Association (AMIA). The building was leveled, 85 people were killed and more than 200 others were wounded. Many experts believe that Iran played a role in the planning of the bombing. This attack came on the heels of a March 1992 bombing at the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires, which left 29 dead and wounded well over 200.¹

The bomber is believed to have entered Argentina through the tri-border region of Argentina, Paraguay, and Brazil. The U.S. State Department's 2004 "Country Reports on Terrorism" noted that the so-called tri-border area "has long been characterized as a regional hub for Hezbollah and Hamas fundraising activities."²



The devastation of the AMIA bombing

[1] "Breakthrough Made in '94 Argentina Bombing," Associated Press, November 9, 2005.

[2] "Country Reports on Terrorism 2004," U.S. State Department, April 2005.

Canada

In Canada, Islamists threatened to behead the prime minister.

Fifteen Muslim extremists were arrested on June 2, 2006, in a police sting operation as they were receiving a delivery of three tons of ammonium-nitrate fertilizer. This fertilizer, when combined with fuel, can be used as a bomb. In fact, Timothy McVeigh was convicted of using one ton of ammonium nitrate to blow up the Federal Building in Oklahoma City in 1995.¹

According to court documents, the alleged plot envisioned the bombing of targets in Ontario, storming of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation headquarters, and capturing—and beheading—the prime minister and other politicians to enforce a demand for the release of Muslim prisoners and withdrawal of Canada’s troops from Afghanistan.²

“Those who believe do battle for the cause of Allah, and those who disbelieve do battle for the cause of *taghout*, evil.”³

-- A message from a video handed out by one of the bomb-plot suspects at a local mosque



A sketch of Steven Chand, a Muslim convert who was accused of plotting to behead the Canadian prime minister

[1] “Canada Says Terrorist Planned to Behead Harper, Defense Says,” *Bloomberg.com*, June 6, 2006.

[2] “The Plan to Behead the Prime Minister,” *Economist*, June 8, 2006.

[3] “Jihadist Video Aimed at Muslim Youth,” *BBC News*, June 20, 2006.

United States

On September 11, 2001, Islamic extremists carried out the largest terrorist attack ever on U.S. soil.



A lone firefighter amidst the rubble of the World Trade Center

On the morning of September 11, 2001, nineteen Muslim extremists with links to Al-Qaeda hijacked four commercial passenger jet airliners. Two of the planes crashed into the World Trade Center. Another plane crashed into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. Passengers and members of the flight crew on the fourth aircraft attempted to take control of their plane from the hijackers; that plane crashed into a field in rural Pennsylvania. It is now known that the terrorists' target was the U.S. Capitol.¹

The hijackers reportedly took control of the aircraft using box-cutter knives to take over the cockpits.²

In contrast to the many stereotypes about terrorists, most of the attackers were educated and came from well-to-do backgrounds.³

In all, nearly 3,000 people died. It was the single largest terror attack on U.S. soil.⁴

[1] Philippe Naughton and Sam Knight, "Maussau Jury Hears Tape of Flight 93 Cockpit Struggle," *Times Online*, April 12, 2006.

[2] Mike Ahlers, "9/11 Panel," CBS News, January 27, 2004.

[3] Ibid.

[4] Ibid.

United States

So-called “charities” have used U.S. front organizations to funnel funds to terrorist groups.



Several Islamist groups have set up charitable organizations in the U.S. to funnel funds to terrorists to help them plan and execute attacks.

Virginia-based Islamic charities invested millions of dollars in a company which, government agents suspected, funded Al-Qaeda and Hamas. The Muslim charities gave \$3.7 million to BMI Inc., a now defunct private Islamic investment company in New Jersey, which may have passed the money to the terrorist groups.¹



The Texas-based offices of the Holy Land Foundation in Richardson, Texas

In another incident, in 2004, the U.S. government indicted the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development for providing more than \$12.4 million to individuals and organizations linked to Hamas.

The attorney general said that Holy Land, which, before the indictment claimed to be the largest U.S. Muslim charity, gave money to the families of Hamas terrorists killed and jailed by Israel.²

[1] Douglas Farah, “U.S. Links Islamic Charities, Terrorist Funding,” *Washington Post*, August 20, 2003.

[2] “Muslim Charity Indicted on Terrorism Charges,” *Associated Press*, July 27, 2004.

Islamist Vision Realized: Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, under the Taliban regime (1996-2001), Islamic law became state policy, with frightening results.

While in power, the Taliban instituted an ultra-conservative form of *Sharia* (Islamic law).

The Taliban imposed highly restrictive laws on women. They mandated the burqa, limited women's right to work outside of the home, officially banned girls from attending school, and restricted women's healthcare to those who were accompanied by a male family member and where the treating doctor was a woman.¹

Music, movies, and television were all banned on religious grounds.²

The Taliban Ministry for the Promotion of Virtue and Suppression of Vice carried out punishments such as "stoning to death, flogging, public executions for adultery, murder, and homosexual activity, and amputations of limbs for theft."³

Religious minorities, mostly Hindus, were also required to wear distinguishing labels on their clothing to mark them as non-Muslims.⁴



The Buddhas of Bamiyan—statues over 1,500 years old—which were destroyed in 2001 in Afghanistan by the Taliban government for being idolatrous and un-Islamic

[1] "Afghanistan, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices," U.S. Department of State, February 23, 2001.

[2] Ibid.

[3] Ibid.

[4] Jack Kelley, "Taliban: Hindus Must Wear Identity Labels," *USA Today*, June 19, 2001.

Islamist Vision Realized: Somalia

Somali extremists are taking over where the Taliban left off by enforcing a fundamentalist interpretation of Sharia (Islamic law) in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu.



Islamist militiamen took over Mogadishu and much of southern Somalia in May 2006 and began implementing *Sharia*.

Some of the hardliners' tactics thus far include requiring Muslims to pray under penalty of death, flogging drug offenders, banning music, and closing makeshift cinemas.¹

These militia have close ties with Al-Qaeda. In fact, officials charge Al-Qaeda for a failed assassination attempt on President Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed on September 18, 2006. The attack, which involved two car bombs and at least one suicide bomber, killed five others, including the president's brother.²



President Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed, the target of an assassination attempt by Islamic extremists

In another incident, a gunman shot and killed an elderly Italian nun, Sister Leonella Sgorbati, in Mogadishu. It is believed that the attacker targeted the nun in reaction to Pope Benedict XVI's comments about Islam.³

[1] "Italian Nun, Teen among Five Killed in Day of Somalia Bloodshed," Agence France Presse, September 17, 2006.

[2] "Somalia Sees Al-Qaeda Behind First-Ever Suicide Bombing," Agence France Presse, September 19, 2006.

[3] "Italian Nun, Teen among Five Killed in Day of Somalia Bloodshed," Agence France Presse.

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