

Anti-Semitism: A Pillar of Islamic Extremist Ideology

In a video message in August 2015, Osama bin Laden's son, Hamza bin Laden, utilized a range of anti-Semitic and anti-Israel narratives in his effort to rally Al Qaeda supporters and incite violence against Americans and Jews.

Bin Laden described Jews and Israel as having a disproportionate role in world events and the oppression of Muslims. He compared the “Zio-Crusader alliance led by America” to a bird: “Its head is America, one wing is NATO and the other is the State of the Jews in occupied Palestine, and the legs are the tyrant rulers that sit on the chests of the peoples of the Muslim Ummah [global community].”



An undated image of al-Qaeda terrorist Osama bin Laden and his son, Hamza

Bin Laden then called for attacks worldwide and demanded that Muslims “support their brothers in Palestine by fighting the Jews and the Americans... not in America and occupied Palestine and Afghanistan alone, but all over the world... take it to all the American, Jewish, and Western interests in the world.”

Such violent expressions of anti-Semitism have been at the core of Al Qaeda's ideology for decades. Even the 9/11 terrorist attacks were motivated, in part, by anti-Semitism. Mohamed Atta, a key member of the Al Qaeda Hamburg cell responsible for the attacks, reportedly considered New York City to be the center of a global Jewish conspiracy, and Khalid Sheik Mohammed, who masterminded the attack, had allegedly previously developed several plans to attack Israeli and Jewish targets. In their view, New York, as a center of world finance, was the quintessential Jewish target.

Fourteen years after 9/11, terrorist groups motivated by Islamic extremist ideology, from Al Qaeda to the [Islamic State of Iraq and Syria](#) (ISIS), continue to rely on depictions of a Jewish enemy – often combined with violent opposition to the State of Israel – to recruit followers, motivate adherents and draw attention to their cause. Anti-Israel sentiment is not the same as anti-Semitism. However, terrorist groups often link the two, exploiting hatred of Israel to further encourage attacks against Jews worldwide and as an additional means of diverting attention to their cause.

And they have more tools at their disposal than ever before.

As new technology and social media continue to alter the nature of global communications, terrorist groups have quickly adapted to these tools in their efforts to reach an ever-widening pool of potential adherents. As a result, anti-Semitism in its most dangerous form is easily accessible by a worldwide audience.

Recent terrorist attacks against Jewish institutions in Europe, and the [spike in terror-related arrests in the U.S.](#), not only speak to the global reach provided by these new technologies, but also to the pervasive nature of anti-Semitism in terrorist propaganda that encourages violence directed at Jews.

This report examines the nature and function of anti-Semitism in terrorist propaganda today. It focuses on [ISIS](#), [Al Qaeda Central](#), and two of Al Qaeda's largest affiliates, [Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula](#) (AQAP) in Yemen and [Al Shabaab](#) in Somalia, as well as the prevalence of anti-Semitism among supporters of Palestinian terrorist organizations. It also provides examples of individuals linked to terrorist plots and other activity in the U.S. that were influenced, at least to some degree, by anti-Semitic and anti-Israel messages.

Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)

ISIS's territorial ambitions and military goals focus on areas with little to no Jewish presence. However, that has not stopped the organization from encouraging its supporters around the world to attack Jews. Although anti-Semitism is generally not as pervasive in ISIS propaganda as it has been in Al Qaeda messaging thus far, its threats against Jews are most pronounced under two sets of circumstances: when there is conflict involving Israel and the Palestinians, and when ISIS is attempting to reinforce its claims of statehood and strength.

In a major strategy speech by ISIS's primary spokesman [Abu Mohammed al-Adnani in September 2014](#), shortly after the group proclaimed itself a Caliphate, al-Adnani blamed Jews for the international opposition faced by ISIS and called for attacks against western civilians and soldiers around the world. "The jews [sic]! The jews [sic]! Save the jews[sic]! This is the reason they [the U.S.] came," he stated.



Al-Adnani also called President Barack Obama a "mule of the Jews," a statement that was further popularized by ISIS supporters on Twitter using the hashtag #Obamamulejews. Translations of the speech were issued on Twitter in several languages including Hebrew, which may have been an attempt to intimidate Jews and Hebrew speakers.

Anti-Semitic messages sometimes show up in ISIS propaganda pieces as a matter of course. An [ISIS propaganda video](#) from June 2014, for example, attempted to “rally all the troops” with the line, “wherever our war goes, Jewish rabbis are humiliated.”

In August 2015, as ISIS faced an increasing threat from a growing U.S. coalition and was attempting to assert its claims to statehood, the group released a video alleging that Jews had a conspiratorial role in the creation of a “satanic financial system... In this age the seeds of corruption were sown by America and cultivated by the Jews heading a capitalist financial system of enslavement.”



Screenshot from ISIS video reads “Jewish Rabbis are Humiliated”

ISIS videos released after reports of significant territorial losses and dissatisfaction among recruits featured children who apparently executed ISIS captives, followed by threats against Jews and Israel.

[One of those videos, released in March 2015](#), depicted the execution of a man who the video claimed was an Israeli spy. Among the statements in the video were, “Today we say to you, the Islamic conquests have begun, and the Jews have become frightened because the promise is near,” and “O Jews, Allah has gifted us with killing your followers in your own stronghold in France.”

An adult ISIS-member who supervised the execution in the video was reportedly the half-brother of Mohammed Merah, the man responsible for a [2011 shooting in a Jewish school](#) in Toulouse, France, that left four dead, including three children.



Screen shot from ISIS video with caption “and our eyes are on Jerusalem”

The video ended with the child executioner shown in front of an image of Jerusalem.

ISIS also attempted to exploit the conflict in Gaza in the summer of 2014 with a [series of threats against Jews and Israel](#) posted online by ISIS and its supporters. The threats simultaneously sought support among those angered by the conflict by threatening Israel and attempted to excuse

ISIS's inactivity in the conflict. For example, an article in the July 2014 issue of ISIS's English-language magazine *Dabiq* stated that the terror group's "actions speak louder than its words and it is only a matter of time and patience before it reaches Palestine to fight the barbaric jews (sic) and kill those of them hiding behind the gharqad trees – the trees of the jews (sic)." The mention of gharqad trees refers to a *hadith*, a statement attributed to Mohammed, sometimes cited by extremists as an order to kill Jews.

Official ISIS propaganda on Twitter during the Gaza conflict contained [shorter versions of the same message](#). One of ISIS' several media wings, Al-Battar Media, tweeted a series of graphics threatening Israel. One graphic posted July 9 shows storm clouds over Jerusalem with a warning: "Patience, Jews, our appointment is at al-Quds [Jerusalem] tomorrow, for the one who waits is close." Another image posted the same day shows the Dome of the Rock mosque superimposed in front of militants and features the same language.

Individual ISIS supporters have carried out attacks on Jewish targets. In January, 2015, ISIS supporter Amedy Coulibaly killed four people in [a shooting at a Paris kosher supermarket](#) and allegedly also planned to attack a Jewish school. Coulibaly recorded a video prior to the attack in which he pledged allegiance to ISIS, and ISIS took credit for his actions.

Following that shooting, ISIS sought to [capitalize on the Jewish nature of the target](#) in its propaganda, infusing anti-Semitic references into its calls for copy-cat attacks. Tweets issued as part of an official ISIS Twitter hashtag campaign on the subject quoted [Anwar al-Awlaki](#), a former propagandist for [Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula](#) (AQAP), narrating a story about a "Jewish leader" about whom Awlaki said Mohammed stated, "he has harmed us and he has defamed us with his poetry, and none of you (Jews) would do this except we would deal with him with the sword."



Mehdi Nemmouche

In May, 2014, French citizen [Mehdi Nemmouche](#) allegedly killed 3 people and injured 1 in a shooting at the Brussels Jewish museum. Nemmouche had reportedly spent a year in Syria prior to the attack, where he may have fought with ISIS, according to Belgian and French officials. Nemmouche had apparently recorded a video prior to the attack in which he said he wanted to "kill Jews."

Individual pro-ISIS social media accounts, many of which are instrumental in distributing ISIS propaganda to hundreds or thousands of dedicated supporters, also advocate anti-Semitic ideology and threaten the State of Israel. "The Light Series," a group that distributes pro-ISIS videos, has shared a poster depicting a quote from Osama bin Laden saying, "Their rejection of Hamas after it had won the election confirms that there is a Crusader-Zionist war against Muslims." Similarly, the Twitter account "Prophet's Khilafa," an account that often tweets official

ISIS propaganda, posted a series of posters depicting anti-Semitic conspiracy theories such as “Jews after emancipation involved in slave trade, women trafficking and prostitution.”

Al Qaeda Central

Anti-Semitism has been at the core of Al Qaeda’s ideology since the group’s establishment in the late 1980’s. Al Qaeda-affiliated extremists and those who have adopted a similar ideology have long referred to their enemies as the “Jewish-Crusader Alliance,” “Zionist-Crusaders,” or the “Jews and Crusaders,” thereby labeling Jews as a key component of the forces they view as being at war with Islam.

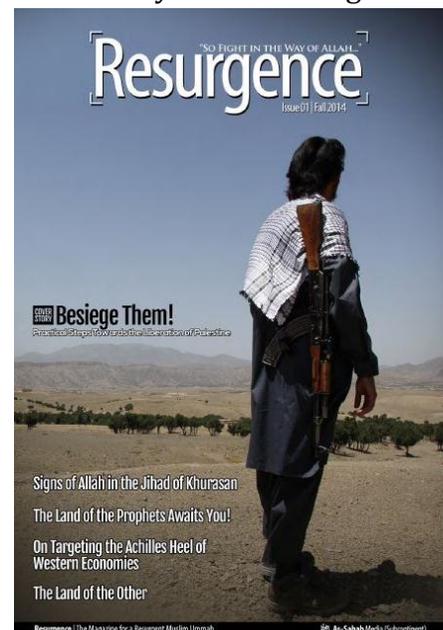
A [review of recently declassified papers](#) found in Osama bin Laden’s compound after his death further demonstrate the extent to which Al Qaeda viewed anti-Semitism as a valuable tactic in motivating its supporters. For example, one letter asks, “Did you think about issuing a statement to the nation to show solidarity with the people?.... It should also say that the Jewish state is about to end, and so on.”

A look at Al Qaeda’s more recent propaganda shows the continued centrality of anti-Semitism in its recruitment messages as it competes with ISIS for attention and followers. As noted in the introduction, for example, a video statement released in August 2015 featuring Hamza bin Laden, Osama bin Laden’s son, relied extensively on anti-Semitism (if not just name recognition) to appeal to Al Qaeda supporters.

Similarly, the June 2015 issue of *Resurgence*, the group’s English-language magazine, re-asserted Al Qaeda’s “focus on fighting America, the Crusader West and the Jews,” and called for adherents to “increase pressure” on the U.S. to make it “submit, withdraw from our countries, and stop supporting the Jews.” The magazine also called for attacks against Jews, saying, “don’t forget to make the Jewish occupiers the main target of your operations, because nothing upsets and harms the Egyptian pharoacracy more than attacks on its Jewish backers.”

The [first issue of *Resurgence*](#), released in October 2014, demonstrates how anti-Semitic conspiracy theories are adapted to Al Qaeda’s message. The magazine’s cover story, “Besiege Them: Practical Steps Towards the Liberation of Palestine” drew on the anti-Semitic canard that Jews control international finance, arguing that the best means to defeat Israel is to divest from “international trade and finance” and revert to the barter system.

Videos issued by Al Qaeda in recent years have also emphasized anti-Semitic conspiracies. A [video released in May 2014](#) that featured the organization’s English-language spokesman [Adam Gadahn](#),



Cover of the first issue of *Resurgence* magazine

for example, stated that “This criminal Pharoanic clique [the Egyptian government] is nothing but the protector of the Jews and the agent of the western crusaders which lives on their handouts and bribes.”

That video concluded with clips of terror attacks in Israel, including a brief video clip of Jews praying at the Western Wall, Judaism’s holiest site, followed by footage of an explosion. [Earlier Adam Gadahn videos had similarly used anti-Semitism](#) and anti-Israel sentiments and imagery to build support for the terror organization.

Although Al Qaeda Central has not issued as many propaganda statements or carried out as many attacks against the West in recent years, its affiliate organizations, which are now more active in both issuing propaganda and carrying out attacks, remain steadfast in promoting anti-Semitism in their messaging and threatening targets perceived as Jewish or Israeli.

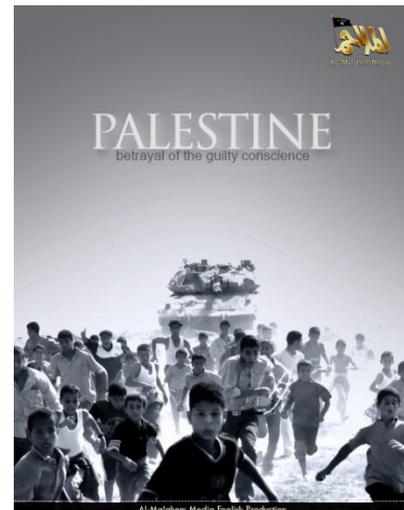
Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP)

Of all Al Qaeda affiliates, [AQAP](#) has developed the most robust English-language propaganda over the years. Prior to the rise of ISIS, AQAP’s English-language propaganda influenced dozens of Americans linked to terror plots and other activity and much of that propaganda featured explicit anti-Semitism.

AQAP’s groundbreaking English-language magazine [Inspire](#) has consistently [identified Jews as a key force at war](#) with Islam since it was first published in July 2010. Every issue of *Inspire* has been filled with either direct threats against Jews and Jewish institutions or diatribes against Jews and Israel. An article with bomb making instructions in the [first issue of Inspire](#), which the [Tsarnaev brothers](#) allegedly used to build the bombs used in the Boston Marathon, included references to “The Jews and Christians” that “have dishonored the Muslims, desecrated our holy places, and cured the beloved Prophet.”

The magazine’s [13th issue](#), released in December 2014, discussed “all the crimes which the Americans and Jews have committed against us” and encouraged attacks against the U.S. because it claimed America had “surrendered to the Jews” in supporting the State of Israel. It also praised terrorist attacks against Jews specifically, including one attack in Israel and one in Tunisia.

The [12th issue](#), released in March 2014, included an article encouraging terror attacks against Western countries that recycled persistent stereotypes about Jewish control, stating, “America is breathing its last [breath] and the Jewish gangs running the country and the West are giving up on



Cover of "Palestine: Betrayal of the Guilty Conscience"

them.” Additional examples of anti-Semitic quotes from earlier issues of *Inspire* are available [on the ADL blog](#).

Like many other terrorist organizations, AQAP sought to exploit the anger over fighting between Israel and Hamas by releasing a magazine in August 2014 titled “[Palestine: Betrayal of the Guilty Conscience](#).” The magazine sought to rile up hatred against Jews as a tactic to renew its calls for terror attacks against the U.S. and the U.K. One sentence in the magazine, for example, read: “There is no meaning to life when you see Jews do all sorts of things to your brothers and women and children.”

The magazine also reiterated calls for the destruction of the State of Israel, quoting Osama bin Laden as saying that “we won’t recognize any state for the Jews, even if on one hand span of the land of Palestine.” A graphic featuring a timeline of terror attacks around the world in the magazine specifically praised attacks in which “all Jews present were killed.”

In addition, anti-Semitism has apparently factored into some of AQAP’s attempted attacks. In a thwarted [2010 cargo bomb plot](#), for example, explosive-laden packages snuck onto U.S.-bound cargo planes were addressed to Chicago-area synagogues. And [Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab](#), the would-be bomber in AQAP’s failed [2009 Christmas Day airplane bomb plot](#), said [in his guilty plea](#) that the attack was planned “in retaliation for U.S. support of Israel and in retaliation of the killing of innocent and civilian Muslim populations in Palestine, especially in the blockage of Gaza” and “in retaliation for... Israel [sic] massacres of innocent Palestinians.”

Al Shabaab

[Al Shabaab](#), the Al Qaeda affiliate group in Somalia, has attracted American and international recruits and threatened attacks against Western countries, but its scope of operations have been confined to eastern Africa. Despite exclusively operating in a region with little to no Jewish presence, it employs anti-Semitism in order to mobilize support and recruit adherents.

In 2012, for example, Al Shabaab’s English- and Swahili-language magazine [Gaidi Mtaani described Jews](#) as “the worst enemy of Islam” and cast “the Zionist with their American partners” as the beneficiaries of the “crusade” in Somalia.

The fourth issue of *Gaidi Mtaani*, released in November 2013, includes a Qu’ranic quote translated to read, “Surely if they (the Jews) are expelled, never will they (hypocrites) go out with them, and if they are attacked, they will never help them.”



Image alleging Jewish conspiracy in Gaidi Mtaani

And an article addressed to all Muslims in the fifth issue of *Gaidi Mtaani*, released in December 2014, suggests disproportionate Jewish power and ill intention, stating, “Do not be deceived by the

support you receive from the Jews, Britain and America, for they will avail you nothing and they will abandon you to encounter your destiny on your own.”

The target for one of Al Shabaab’s deadliest attacks, the 2013 siege of Nairobi’s Westgate Mall, was allegedly chosen because the mall had “Jewish and American shops,” according to an Al Shabaab spokesman. The fourth issue of Al Shabaab’s English- and Swahili-language magazine Gaidi Mtaani emphasized that the Westgate was “Israeli built” and “Jewish owned.”

A [video released by Al Shabaab in February 2015](#) documenting the attack further emphasized the mall’s alleged ties to Israel, stating that “Westgate shopping mall...is a four-story Israeli-owned complex,” and that, in response to the attack, “Israeli security specialists and FBI teams were...on the ground.” The video also put the nationality “Israeli” first in a list of nationalities of the deceased.

That same video turned to targeting Jews by equating attacking Israel with attacking Jews and urging followers to replicate the actions of the Westgate attackers by targeting and attacking “any of the hundred or so Jewish-owned Westfield shopping centers dotted right across the Western world....”



Screenshot from Al Shabaab video calling for attacks on “Jewish-owned Westfield shopping centers”

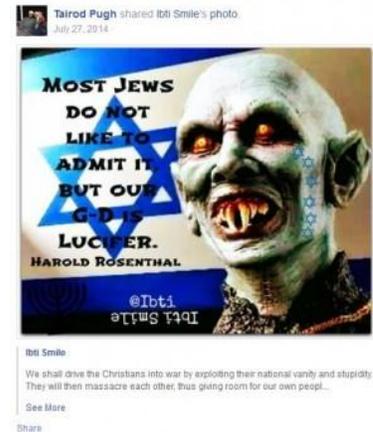
Americans Linked to Terrorism

The use of anti-Semitism by terrorist organizations to rally and motivate adherents is reflected in the writings and stated motives of many U.S. residents linked to terrorist plots and other activity, including those that have attempted to attack Jewish institutions. Some recent examples include:

- [Tairod Pugh](#), arrested for allegedly attempting to join ISIS in 2015, wrote a Facebook post that stated, “All the evil done by the Jews came from within themselves. On the day of Judgment full responsibility of the starving, torture, jailing and killing of innocent Muslims will rest upon there (sic) shoulders. Allah must really hate them to give the rope to hang themselves,” and posted an image with text stating, “Most Jews do not like to admit it, but our G-d is Lucifer.” He also shared an image on Facebook that referenced [blood libel accusations](#), depicting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu slitting the throats of sleeping children.
- Nader Elhuzayel, arrested in 2015 for allegedly attempting to join ISIS, reportedly expressed excitement at the possibility of ISIS attacking Israel. Court documents claim that he wrote, “Looking forward to see some *yahoodi* (Jewish) heads rolling, or dead bodies carrying their own yahoodi heads, and jihadi john (identified as the beheader in several

ISIS videos) doing this stance on them..." as part of an Internet exchange in December 2014.

- [Nadir Soofi](#), one of men who allegedly fired shots at a Garland, Texas community center in 2015, advanced conspiracy theories suggesting Jewish involvement in the September 11, 2001 attacks in online forums.
- [Christopher Lee Cornell](#), arrested in 2015 for allegedly plotting to bomb the U.S. capitol and shoot government officials, reportedly expressed a desire to attack the Israeli Embassy in an interview conducted in prison following his arrest.
- [Shannon Maureen Conley](#), arrested in 2014 for allegedly attempting to join ISIS, threatened a church in her home town reportedly in part because of the church's support for Israel.
- [Basit Javed Sheikh](#), arrested for attempting to join Jabhat al Nusra (al Qaeda in Syria) in 2014, advanced a conspiracy theory on online forums that there was a Jewish conspiracy to promote moderate Islam, which he viewed as inauthentic, over fundamentalist or extremist views of Islam.
- [Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev](#), the 2013 Boston Marathon bombers, are believed to have read anti-Semitic and Holocaust denial literature.
- [Amine el-Khalifi](#), arrested for attempting to bomb the Capitol building in 2012, allegedly also considered targeting synagogues.
- [Sami Osmakac](#), arrested in 2012 for plotting to attack sites in Florida and take hostages, wrote rap lyrics about bombing and killing Jews and posted videos online in which he accused Jews of corrupting religion and killing prophets and compared them to the devil. Osmakac also claimed that the anti-Christ will be a Jewish politician.



A post on Tairod Pugh's Facebook wall

ADL's report featuring earlier examples of U.S. residents linked to terrorism who targeted Jewish or Israeli institutions or expressed anti-Semitic sentiment and motivation is [available on the ADL website](#).

Palestinian Terrorism

Because many designated foreign terrorist organizations that operate out of the Palestinian territories and on Israel's other borders are dedicated to actively fighting the Jewish State, their propaganda has always been particularly focused on Jews and Israel.

As a result, a chorus of supporters regularly share and post anti-Semitic and anti-Israel messages on various social media platforms, which serves to promote violent extremism.

In November 2014, for example, in response to a series of car attacks against Israelis, [a campaign was launched on Facebook and Twitter using the Arabic term “Daes,”](#) which means run-over (related to attacks using vehicles to run over civilians). The term is also a play on the Arabic word “Daesh,” which is slang for ISIS. The campaign was comprised of as many as 90 Facebook pages – several of which had thousands of followers – and a related hashtag on Twitter.

Posts on these pages describe the “run-overs” as part of a new revolution; a form of “car *Intifada*.” A poem posted on November 5 on one of the Facebook pages reads, “When the car becomes a weapon...and kills a murderer Zionist... this means the revolution is coming.” Some pages include pictures of terrorists after they ran over Israelis and were killed by authorities, along with prayers asking for the “martyr” to “ascend to the heavenly paradise.” Other Facebook pages included anti-Semitic posts depicting stereotypical images of ultra-Orthodox Jews with hooked noses running away from vehicles attempting to run them over.

The campaign even had its own theme song and video, called “Run-over this settler,” which was shared on Twitter and on many of the Facebook pages. The song, first uploaded to YouTube on November 6, 2014, called on Palestinians to “Terrify [Israelis] with red blood... Strengthen your heart and be careful not to have mercy over them.”

An additional video called [“Run Away Oh Zionist,”](#) uploaded to YouTube on November 18, drew the attention of terrorist organizations; [Hezbollah’s media arm, Al Manar,](#) stated, “the melody of this short video is very apt, and the animation is highly professional which indicates a quality boom for the ‘resistance’ art in the Occupied Territory [Palestine].” The video depicted an identifiably Jewish man singing about running away from cars and then being hit by a car and thrown into a cemetery; lyrics included “Runaway Zionists because you will be killed by all means.”

Other terrorist organizations, such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine ([PFLP](#)), [released their own music videos](#) onto YouTube; the PFLP video was called “With a butcher’s knife, a gun, and an Iron will” and referred to “slaughtering them [Israelis] like sheep.”



An image circulated as part of the “Daes” campaign



An image circulated following the November 2014 attack

Similar [social media activity followed the November 2014 attack](#) in a Jerusalem synagogue, in which two men killed five people with a hatchet. Cartoons depicting stereotypical images of ultra-Orthodox Jews, some with stars of David on their hats, being chased or attacked with knives were widely circulated on social media by both individuals and by the official handles of designated terrorist organizations, including Hamas and the PFLP.

Appendix

The following is a sampling of terror attacks and plots against Jews and Jewish institutions worldwide (excluding attacks in Israel) since 2002:

- **April 2015, Spain:** A Spanish gang allegedly plotted kidnappings, executions and attacks on Jewish shops and public buildings in Spain in support of ISIS.
- **February 2015, Denmark:** Reported ISIS supporter Omar Abdel Hamid El-Hussein allegedly opened fire in a synagogue killing the security guard and wounding two police officers.
- **January 2015, France:** [Ahmedy Coulibaly](#) attacked a Parisian kosher supermarket, Hyper Cacher, on behalf of ISIS.
- **August 2014, France:** Two teenage girls were arrested for allegedly planning to undertake a suicide attack in a synagogue in Lyons.
- **May 2014, Belgium:** Gunman [Mehdi Nemmouche](#), who had reportedly fought with ISIS in Syria, allegedly opened fire at the Jewish Museum in Brussels, killing four.
- **September 2013, Kenya:** Al Shabaab [attacked the Westgate](#) mall in Nairobi, Kenya, allegedly because it has “Jewish and American owned” shops.
- **April 2013, UK:** Police uncovered a plot to attack a British synagogue.
- **July 2013, Bulgaria:** A bomb linked to Hezbollah [exploded on a bus](#) full of Israeli tourists in Bulgaria.
- **October 2010, Yemen/U.S.:** AQAP reportedly put bomb-laden packages addressed to Chicago-area synagogues onto cargo planes.
- **May 2009, U.S.:** Attempted attack on Riverdale Jewish Center and Riverdale Temple in New York. A sting operation resulted in 4 convictions.
- **November 2008, India:** A series of coordinated terror attacks in Mumbai, India, which killed over 170 people and wounded approximately 300, specifically targeted Jews and Westerners in several different buildings, including a Jewish Center. Gunmen killed six Jews in the Nariman House, the Mumbai headquarters of the ultra-Orthodox Lubavitch movement.
- **March 2012, France:** [Mohammed Merah](#), who reportedly received terrorist training in Afghanistan and Pakistan and identified with Al Qaeda, allegedly opened fire at a Jewish school in Toulouse, France, killing 7 people.

- **February 2008, Mauritania:** [Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb \(AQIM\)](#), an Al Qaeda-affiliated terrorist group based in North Africa, claimed responsibility for an [attack on the Israeli Embassy in Mauritania](#) that wounded three bystanders.
- **November 2005, Jordan:** At least 57 people were killed and over 96 injured in a series of apparently coordinated [suicide bombs at three hotels in Amman, Jordan](#). In its claim of responsibility, [Al Qaeda in Iraq](#) stated that it had attacked Jordan because it is a "backyard garden for...Jews and crusaders."
- **October 2004, Egypt:** Thirty-four people were killed and 171 others injured when suicide bombers attacked several tourist resorts popular among Israelis in Sinai, Egypt. Prosecutors alleged that the men sentenced to death for the attack belonged to a group called Tawheed and Jihad, which became [Al Qaeda in Iraq](#).
- **July 2004, Uzbekistan:** Two people were killed and nine other injured when a suicide bomber attacked the Israeli and U.S. embassies in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. [The Islamic Jihad Group](#), a terrorist organization that seeks to establish an Islamic government in Uzbekistan, is believed by authorities to be responsible for the attack.
- **November 2003, Turkey:** Two car bombs exploded in attacks on two synagogues in Istanbul during Sabbath services, killing 24 people and injuring over 300. Turkish Islamist groups were associated with the attacks.
- **September 2003, Bangkok:** Thai police claimed to have foiled plans by Islamist extremists to attack El Al planes at Bangkok International Airport.
- **May 2003, Morocco:** Police discovered a plot to blow up synagogues and poison prominent members of the Casablanca Jewish community by a cell of Al-Qaeda linked Saudi nationals.
- **July 2002, U.S.:** A gunman opened fire by the El Al ticket counter in Los Angeles International Airport killing two people and wounding four.
- **November 2002, Kenya:** Thirteen people were killed and more than 40 others injured when alleged Al Qaeda operatives launched a dual attack on Israeli tourists visiting Mombasa, Kenya.
- **November 2002, Kenya:** Al Qaeda claimed responsibility for the bombing of an Israeli-owned resort and an attempt to down an Israeli airline in Mombasa, Kenya, that killed 13 people.
- **April 2002, Tunisia:** A truck with explosives detonated in front of the Ghriba Synagogue in Tunisia, killing 19 and injuring over 30. Al Qaeda claimed responsibility.

PROVIDED BY: [Center on Extremism](#)