

Free pdf Inside the jihad my life with al qaeda my life with al qaeda a spys story (2023)

Inside the Jihad Zarqawi The Secret History of al Qaeda Inside Al-Shabaab Inside Al Qaeda Osama's Wake Al Qaeda Al Qaeda in Its Own Words Inside Al Qaeda The Al-Qaeda Doctrine Al Qaeda Al Qaeda, the Islamic State, and the Global Jihadist Movement Beyond al-Qaeda: Part 2, The Outer Rings of the Terrorist Universe Delegitimizing Al-Qaeda The Egyptian Islamic Jihad and Merger with Al-Qaeda The Osama Bin Laden I Know What Does Al Qaeda Want? Ending Terrorism The Al-Qaeda Franchise Agent Storm The Longest War The War on Terror Encyclopedia Inside Al-Qaeda and the Taliban Hunting Bin Laden After bin Laden The Return of Al-Qaeda Al Qaeda's Global Crisis The Syrian Jihad Jihadism Transformed An Enemy We Created The Rise and Fall of Al-Qaeda The History of Terrorism Capture or Kill The Terror Years The Globalization of Martyrdom Al-Qaeda Season In Hell Combating a Modern Hydra: Al Qaeda and the Global War on Terrorism The World According to Al Qaeda Al-Qaeda's Armies

Inside the Jihad 2007-03-09

from europe s burgeoning terrorist underground to the training camps of afghanistan to the radical mosques of london this is a unique and chilling insider s story of the rise of al qaeda and the intelligence services that struggle to contain it between 1994 and 2000 omar nasiri worked as a secret agent for europe s top foreign intelligence services including france s dgse direction générale de la sécurité extérieure and britain s mi5 and mi6 from the netherworld of islamist cells in belgium to the training camps of afghanistan to the radical mosques of london he risked his life to defeat the emerging global network that the west would come to know as al qaeda now for the first time nasiri shares the story of his life a life balanced precariously between the world of islamic jihadists and the spies who pursue them as an arab and a muslim he was able to infiltrate the rigidly controlled afghan training camps where he encountered men who would later be known as the most wanted terrorists on earth going so far as to form a sleeper cell in europe with al qaeda s top recruiter in pakistan and london s radical cleric abu qatada a detailed portrait of a complex man who fought on both sides inside the jihad is a terrifying suspenseful look at an organization that continues to be a global threat

Zarqawi 2005

presents the life of the jordanian terrorist discussing his childhood his early forays into afghanistan and kurdistan his imprisonment for terroristic activities his entry into iraq and emergence as the leader of an international jihad network

The Secret History of al Qaeda 2012-07-15

over the last ten years journalist and al qaeda expert abdel bari atwan has cultivated uniquely well placed sources and amassed a wealth of information about al qaeda s origins masterminds and plans for the future atwan reveals how al qaeda s radical departure from the classic terrorist guerrilla blueprint has enabled it to outpace less adaptable efforts to neutralize it the fanaticism of its fighters and their willingness to kill and be killed are matched by the leadership s opportunistic recruitment strategies and sophisticated understanding of psychology media and new technology including the use of the internet for training support and communications atwan shows that far from committing acts of violence randomly and indiscriminately al qaeda attacks targets according to a decisive design underwritten by unwavering patience he also argues that events in iraq and saudi arabia are watershed moments in the group s evolution that are making it more dangerous by the day as it refines and appropriates the concept of jihad and makes the suicide bomber a permanent feature of a global holy war while osama bin laden and ayman al zawahiri remain al qaeda s figureheads atwan identifies a new kind of leader made possible by its horizontal chain of command epitomized by the brutal abu mus ab al zarqawi in iraq and the bombers of london madrid amman bali and elsewhere scholarly analytical objective it is also intensely readable being by far the best book on the subject tony benn this is a must read book for anyone interested in understanding our increasingly scary world gavin esler what shines out is a profound desire to investigate and reveal the truth intelligent and informative jason burke guardian deeply researched well reported and full of interesting and surprising analyses it demands to be read peter bergen author of holy war inc

Inside Al-Shabaab 2018-10-01

one of the most powerful islamic militant groups in africa al shabaab exerts taliban like rule over millions in somalia and poses a growing threat to stability in the horn of africa somalis risk retaliation or death if they oppose or fail to comply with al shabaab imposed restrictions on aspects of everyday life such as clothing media sports interpersonal relations and prayer inside al shabaab the secret history of al qaeda s most powerful ally recounts the rise fall and resurgence of this overlooked terrorist organization and provides an intimate understanding of its connections with al qaeda drawing from interviews with former al shabaab militants including high ranking officials military commanders police and foot soldiers authors harun maruf and dan joseph reveal the motivations of those who commit their lives to the group and its violent jihadist agenda a wealth of sources including us diplomatic cables released by wikileaks letters taken from the pakistani hideout of osama bin laden case files from the prosecution of american al shabaab members emails from hillary clinton s tenure as secretary of state and al shabaab s own statements and recruiting videos inform maruf and joseph s investigation of the united states campaign against al shabaab and how the 2006 us backed ethiopian invasion of somalia gave the group the popular support it needed to radicalize ordinary citizens and become a powerful movement the audio book is narrated by nicholas smith produced by speechki in 2021

Inside Al Qaeda 2002-06-27

inside al qaeda examines the leadership ideology structure strategies and tactics of the most violent politico religious organization the world has ever seen the definitive work on al qaeda this book is based on five years of research including extensive interviews with its members field research in al qaeda supported conflict zones in central south and southeast

asia and the middle east and monitoring al qaeda infiltration of diaspora and migrant communities in north america and europe although founded in 1988 al qaeda merged with and still works with several other extremist groups hence al qaeda rank and file draw on nearly three decades of terrorist expertise moreover it inherited a full fledged training and operational infrastructure funded by the united states european saudi arabian and other governments for use in the anti soviet jihad this book sheds light on al qaeda s financial infrastructure and how they train combat soldiers and vanguard fighters for multiple guerrilla terrorist and semi conventional campaigns in the middle east asia africa the caucuses and the balkans in addition the author covers the clandestine al qaeda operational network in the west gunaratna reveals how osama bin laden had his mentor and al qaeda founder azzam assassinated in order to take over the organization and that other al qaeda officers who stood in his way were murdered al qaeda s long range deep penetration agent handling system in western europe and north america for setting up safe houses procuring weapons and conducting operations how the o55 brigade al qaeda s guerrilla organization integrated into the taliban how the arrest of zacarias moussaoui forced al qaeda to move forward on september 11 how a plan to destroy british parliament on 9 11 and to use nerve gas on the european union parliament were thwarted how the iran hezbollah al qaeda link provided the knowledge to conduct coordinated simultaneous attacks on multiple targets including failed plans to destroy los angeles international airport the uss sullivan the radisson hotel in jordan and eleven us commercial airliners over the pacific ocean that one fifth of international islamic charities and ngos are infiltrated by al qaeda how the us response is effective militarily in the short term but insufficient to counter al qaeda s ideology in the long term finally to destroy al qaeda gunaratna shows there needs to be a multipronged multiagency and multidimensional response by the international community

Osama's Wake 2005

the national security strategy nss of the united states inadequately defines the threat which on september 11 2001 propelled the united states towards a global war on terrorism and redirected the nation s security efforts most critics of the nss point out the futility of waging war on terrorism since it is a time worn means to an end if the nation is to have a strategy to combat an enemy it has to define who or what the enemy is the war on terrorism should not be an infinite struggle against any entity willing to use terrorist means and attempting to scope the threat to groups with global reach is not a discriminating factor in today s globalized and interconnected world the enemy must be defined not just by their methodology but also by their ideology and politics

Al Qaeda 2015-08-26

what threat does al qaeda pose to the united states as it continues to evolve in the wake of the arab spring and what are the group s evolving strategies for growth and survival internationally this book provides answers ideal for both students of terrorism and general readers wanting to better understand modern terrorism this book provides an in depth look at al qaeda including its origins evolution doctrines structure and terrorist operations the authors examine al qaeda s operational transitions over the last two decades and consider these changes in terms of the impact of the internet the viciousness of the violence employed the leverage of colonial past and the subsequent international implications particular attention is paid to al qaeda s changing strategies for growth and survival across the middle east and africa as well as the threats that it poses to the united states as it continues to evolve in the wake of the arab spring the work addresses why al qaeda now both a professional force and a network of so called lone wolves must remain a primary focus of the united states

and other western states while also recognizing that the threat of terrorism goes beyond al Qaeda

Al Qaeda in Its Own Words 2008

to reveal the inner workings of al Qaeda this book collects and annotates key texts of the major figures from whom the movement has drawn its beliefs and direction there are excerpts from the writings of Azzaballah Azzam Ayman al Zawahiri Osama bin Laden and Abu Musab al Zarqawi

Inside Al Qaeda 2002

based on over five years of research inside al Qaeda provides the definitive story behind the rise of this small mysterious group to the notorious organization making headlines today

The Al-Qaeda Doctrine 2014-07-31

ever since it was first established the senior leadership of al Qaeda has sought to communicate its core values rationalizations and principles to the world altogether these statements convey al Qaeda's doctrine and the beliefs for which the leadership claims to be fighting this volume in the new directions in terrorism studies series analyzes over 250 statements made by the organization's two key leaders Ayman al Zawahiri and Usama bin Laden over the last two decades it provides an in depth and systematic analysis of these communications showing which key issues emphasized by the two leaders evolved over time and highlighting their core principles it explores al Qaeda's problem diagnosis the solutions offered by its two leaders their escalating although often contradictory approach towards

violence and their chosen communication strategy for different types of audiences the book shows how al qaeda s leadership began to develop an increasingly critical approach towards islam in the wake of the 9 11 attacks and discusses tensions that may undermine the resilience of its doctrine this unique evidence based analysis of al qaeda will attract academics specializing in terrorism and counterterrorism as well as the policy community

Al Qaeda 2010-06

contents 1 introduction al qaeda statements 1994 2001 founding principles declaration of jihad clash of civilizations 2 al qaeda post 9 11 the goals of the new york strike al qaeda statements in 2004 2007 outreach and truce proposals iraq and al qaeda s ideology strategic perspectives tactical differences iraq and al qaeda s regional ambitions the islamic state of iraq and discord political goals and perspectives on reform the three foundations al qaeda on democracy and reform strategic framework targeting israel the importance of oil 3 implications and conclusion al qaeda s audiences pragmatic messianism al qaeda and the jihadist international

Al Qaeda, the Islamic State, and the Global Jihadist Movement **2015-07-23**

on the morning of september 11 2001 the entire world was introduced to al qaeda and its enigmatic leader osama bin laden but the organization that changed the face of terrorism forever and unleashed a whirlwind of counterterrorism activity and two major wars had been on the scene long before that eventful morning in al qaeda the islamic state and the global jihadist movement what everyone needs to know daniel l byman an eminent scholar of middle east terrorism and international security who served on the 9 11 commission provides a sharp and

concise overview of al Qaeda from its humble origins in the mountains of Afghanistan to the present explaining its perseverance and adaptation since 9/11 and the limits of U.S. and allied counterterrorism efforts the organization that would come to be known as al Qaeda traces its roots to the anti-Soviet jihad in Afghanistan in the 1980s founded as the Soviets withdrew from Afghanistan al Qaeda achieved a degree of international notoriety with a series of spectacular attacks in the 1990s however it was the dramatic assaults on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on 9/11 that truly launched al Qaeda onto the global stage the attacks endowed the organization with world historical importance and provoked an overwhelming counterattack by the United States and other Western countries within a year of 9/11 the core of al Qaeda had been chased out of Afghanistan and into a variety of refuges across the Muslim world splinter groups and franchised offshoots were active in the 2000s in countries like Pakistan Iraq and Yemen but by early 2011 after more than a decade of relentless counterterrorism efforts by the United States and other Western military and intelligence services most felt that al Qaeda's moment had passed with the death of Osama bin Laden in May of that year many predicted that al Qaeda was in its death throes shockingly al Qaeda has staged a remarkable comeback in the last few years in almost every conflict in the Muslim world from portions of the Xinjiang region in Northwest China to the African subcontinent al Qaeda franchises or like-minded groups have played a role al Qaeda's extreme Salafist ideology continues to appeal to radicalized Sunni Muslims throughout the world and it has successfully altered its organizational structure so that it can both weather America's enduring full spectrum assault and tailor its message to specific audiences authoritative and highly readable byman's account offers readers insightful and penetrating answers to the fundamental questions about al Qaeda who they are where they came from where they're going and perhaps most critically what we can do about it what everyone needs to know is a registered trademark of Oxford University Press

Beyond al-Qaeda: Part 2, The Outer Rings of the Terrorist Universe 2002-10-14

examines violent terrorist groups that while not formally allied with al Qaeda could pose a threat to Americans now or in the future and to the security of our friends and allies the authors show how terrorists use criminal organizations and connections to finance their activities and they identify distinct strategies to neutralize or mitigate these threats

Delegitimizing Al-Qaeda 2012

disrupting dismantling and ultimately defeating al Qaeda based and inspired terrorism is a declared policy of the U.S. government three key strategic objectives have been identified for accomplishing this attacking al Qaeda's terror network undermining radicalization and recruitment and hardening homeland defense the present monograph proposes a distinct jihad realist approach for undermining radicalization and recruitment to al Qaeda first a brief discussion of six means for ending terrorist organizations is provided second the premises of a jihad realist approach are described third a jihad realist shari'a case against al Qaeda's terrorism is presented in conclusion key assertions are summarized and several specific policy recommendations offered for national security personnel charged with formulating and executing counterterrorist messaging strategy

The Egyptian Islamic Jihad and Merger with Al-Qaeda 2015-02-26

essay from the year 2014 in the subject history world history modern history Boston University course terrorism met/cj 650 language English abstract the Egyptian Islamic Jihad (EIJ) is a very militant Islamic group that came about in the 1970s this group was also recognized by the

united nations at the time as being affiliated with al Qaeda networks this group's primary purpose initially was to instill a religious government in Egypt however after dealing with numerous arrests from world operatives which mostly took place in Lebanon and Yemen this group was said to eventually have completely merged with Osama Bin Laden's al Qaeda networks in 2001 after merging with al Qaeda the group broadened its purpose for the most part the group totally switched its focus towards complete opposition towards western influence in the Muslim regions this opposition also included any Arab governments that supported both the United States and Israel the decision to merge with al Qaeda and the change in the group's focus or its initial stated purpose since its inception did not sit well with all of its members and caused a rift within the organization

The Osama Bin Laden I Know 2006

Osama Bin Laden has haunted the popular psyche and stymied the world's mightiest military for the last five years despite President Bush's declaration that he wanted Bin Laden dead or alive despite being one of the world's most notorious men and despite the barrage of coverage surrounding him Osama Bin Laden remains at large and shrouded in a fog of anecdote and myth rumor and fact Peter Bergen author of the bestselling book *Holy War Inc* offers an astounding unparalleled portrait of Bin Laden comprised of Bergen's own interviews with more than fifty people who have known Bin Laden personally from his brother-in-law to his high school English teacher to former members of al Qaeda the resulting collage of voices and memories affords an unprecedented glimpse into the life and the true nature of the man directly responsible for the largest terror attack in history no journalist knows more about Osama Bin Laden than Peter Bergen in 1997 well before Bin Laden became a household name Bergen met with him and has since followed his activities closely after an insightful introduction in which Bergen recounts how at their meeting Bin Laden presented himself as a soft-spoken cleric rather than as the firebreathing leader of a global terrorist organization Bergen stands aside to make way for

the voices of dozens of people with firsthand sometimes intimate experience with the al Qaeda leader current conventional wisdom seems to be that bin Laden and his organization have faded in importance but Bergen argues urgently that that perspective is far from accurate indeed each day that bin Laden remains free adds to al Qaeda's public relations triumph for his legend only grows among his supporters more concretely he continues to provide broad strategic guidance for jihadists his many statements released on video or audio tape since 9/11 for instance have exerted direct influence on terrorists' actions in 2003 the world suffered more significant terror attacks than had occurred in a single year during the previous two decades and in 2004 the number of attacks doubled over 2003 in 2004 Abu Musab al Zarqawi Iraq's most ferocious insurgent leader pledged his allegiance to bin Laden a sign of the continued importance of al Qaeda's leader how did Osama bin Laden transform himself from a shy polite middle of his class schoolboy to commander of the world's most formidable terrorist organization where was bin Laden on 9/11 and what was his reaction to it how did he escape from Tora Bora is al Qaeda a top-down organization or a loose ideological alliance what is it about this man that draws hundreds of thousands of followers and makes men willing to fly airplanes into buildings at his command this definitive and engaging portrait gives the American public its first true enduring insight into a man who has declared us his greatest enemy

What Does Al Qaeda Want? 2004-11-23

in the aftermath of the September 11th attacks al Qaeda has become the most infamous terrorist organization in history while their actions are deplorable it remains a populist and idealist movement and one that continues to spread despite heavy media coverage most people are unaware of the group's ultimate goals sampling from actual al Qaeda texts this is al Qaeda in its own words rather than another interpretation which often emphasizes the inflammatory religious rhetoric offered by the Bush administration and other factions of the Western world

introductions and commentary provide the historical context necessary to understand fully the interconnection between the religious social and political issues that led to the emergence of osama bin laden and his jihad against the west these primary sources enable readers to discern the fundamental convictions underlying the group s demands and help answer the question what does al qaeda want

Ending Terrorism 2008

this adelphi paper comparatively examines the waning days of terrorist groups to understand crucial points where a critical mass of factors developed and led toward their demise

The Al-Qaeda Franchise 2016

why did al qaeda choose to expand through franchising in the al qaeda franchise barak mendelsohn argues that the organization s weakening position was a central factor driving its organizational strategy and demonstrates how branching out not only failed to arrest al qaeda s decline but actually accelerated it

Agent Storm 2014-07-03

agent storm my life inside al qaeda by morten storm morten storm was an unlikely jihadist a 6 1 red haired dane storm spent his teens with a biker gang or in jail but after converting to islam he embarked on a transformation that led from a militant madrassa in yemen to a close friendship with anwar al awlaki the american born cleric who would emerge as al qaeda s greatest threat to the west then storm s story took another dramatic twist he lost his faith and was recruited by the cia mi6 and mi5 becoming a double agent his ultimate mission to bring

down his mentor al awlaki this is the searing memoir of a man who sought purpose in a community of believers before rejecting their extremist ideology in a quest for atonement he lived undercover for five years travelling the world to complete high profile missions as well as single handedly thwarting multiple terrorist attacks he led the intelligence services to some of al qaeda s most dangerous terrorists all the while knowing his own life was expendable agent storm takes readers inside the jihadist world like never before showing the daily life of zealous men set on mass murder from dodging drones with al qaeda leaders in the arabian desert to jihadist gyms in birmingham it also gives a rare look inside the world s most powerful spy agencies including their tradecraft after hours carousing and their ruthless use of a beautiful blonde in a honey trap filled with hair raising close calls coded messages and chilling duplicity agent storm is a captivating real life thriller

The Longest War 2011-01-11

ten years have passed since the shocking attacks on the world trade center and after seven years of conflict the last u s combat troops left iraq only to move into afghanistan where the ten year old fight continues the war on terror rages with no clear end in sight in the longest war peter bergen offers a comprehensive history of this war and its evolution from the strategies devised in the wake of the 9 11 attacks to the fighting in afghanistan pakistan and beyond unlike any other book on this subject here bergen tells the story of this shifting war s failures and successes from the perspectives of both the united states and al qaeda and its allies he goes into the homes of al qaeda members rooting into the source of their devotion to terrorist causes and spends time in the offices of the major players shaping the u s strategic efforts in the region at a time when many are frustrated or fatigued with what has become an enduring multigenerational conflict this book will provide an illuminating narrative that not only traces the arc of the fight but projects its likely future weaving together internal documents from al qaeda and the u s offices of counterterrorism first person interviews with

top level jihadists and senior washington officials along with his own experiences on the ground in the middle east bergen balances the accounts of each side revealing how al qaeda has evolved since 9 11 and the specific ways the u s government has responded in the ongoing fight bergen also uncovers the strategic errors committed on both sides the way that al qaeda s bold attack on the united states on 9 11 actually undermined its objective and caused the collapse of the taliban and the destruction of the organization s safe haven in afghanistan and how al qaeda is actually losing the war of ideas in the muslim world the book also shows how the united states undermined its moral position in this war with its actions at guantánamo and coercive interrogations including the extraordinary rendition of abu omar who was kidnapped by the cia in milan in 2003 and was tortured for four years in egyptian prisons his case represents the first and only time that cia officials have been charged and convicted of the crime of kidnapping in examining other strategic blunders the united states has committed bergen offers a scathing critique of the clinton and bush administrations inability to accurately assess and counter the al qaeda threat bush s deeply misguided reasons for invading iraq including the story of how the invasion was launched based in part on the views of an obscure academic who put forth theories about iraq s involvement with al qaeda and the obama administration s efforts in afghanistan at a critical moment in world history the longest war provides the definitive account of the ongoing battle against terror

The War on Terror Encyclopedia 2014-10-07

this fascinating reference chronicles the individuals operations and events of the war on terror around the world exploring its causes and consequences through the lens of policy doctrine and tactics of combat the war on terror is more than a political movement to identify and prosecute terrorists it has become a cornerstone of economic and military importance this campaign has shaped policy in the middle east prompted uprisings of islamic fundamentalists against the west and redefined the ideology of warfare this single volume encyclopedia

provides readers with more than 200 engaging entries on the myriad events key individuals and organizations that have played a major role in the war on terror the a z entries define the policies and doctrines describe the armies battlefields and weapons employed and profile the figures whose actions and decisions set the course of history the expert contributors decode military jargon for non specialist readers and explain the unconventional tactics used in the war on terror shedding light on the reason behind the attacks the political maneuvering of the leaders involved and the internal conflicts and external clashes that drove terrorists to settle all over the world the book also includes detailed essays on the impact of the september 11 attacks on u s foreign policy presidential powers and public opinion

Inside Al-Qaeda and the Taliban *2011-05-15*

president obama may have delivered on his campaign promise to kill osama bin laden but as an al qaeda strategist bin laden has been dead for years this book introduces and examines the new generation of al qaeda leaders who have been behind the most recent attacks investigative journalist syed saleem shahzad dedicated his life to revealing the strategies and inner workings of al qaeda and the taliban he had access to top level commanders in both movements as well as within the isi pakistan s intelligence service shahzad s work was praised by us secretary of state hillary clinton for bringing to light the troubles extremism poses to pakistan s stability inside al qaeda and the taliban explains the wider aims of both organizations and provides an essential analysis of major terrorist incidents including the 2008 mumbai attacks in may 2011 shahzad was abducted and killed in pakistan days after writing an article suggesting that insiders in the pakistani navy had colluded with al qaeda in an attack on a naval air station this book is a testament to his fearless reporting and analytical rigor it will provide readers worldwide with invaluable insights into the new phase of the ongoing struggle against terrorism which threatens to tear apart the fragile fabric of so many countries

Hunting Bin Laden 2008-06-17

schultheis a veteran war correspondent takes an in depth look at why america is losing the war on terror and what the nation should do if it really wants to defeat osama bin laden and al qaeda

After bin Laden 2011-05-10

an intelligent and fascinatingly readable examination of al qaeda after the death of its longtime leader by the renowned arab world journalist pat lancaster editor in chief of middle east magazine osama bin laden is dead yet al qaeda remains the cia s number one threat since the 9 11 attacks on the united states and the us military s subsequent strikes the organization has evolved into a much more complex and far flung entity this richly documented account of al qaeda moves well beyond the headlines to offer readers a deeper understanding of the organization s aims strategies and fortunes in a new era of conflict with the united states and the western powers drawing on firsthand accounts and interviews with uniquely well placed sources within al qaeda noted journalist and expert abdel bari atwan investigates the movement s new internal dynamics how it survives financially and how its political appeal has changed dramatically following the arab spring atwan profiles the next generation of leaders and explores both the new methods they embrace especially on the digital battlefield as well as the global range of their operations and local variations in somalia afghanistan pakistan libya algeria tunisia morocco and elsewhere abdel bari atwan has long been one of the sharpest commentators about al qaeda and the middle east peter bergen author of manhunt the ten year search for osama bin laden from 9 11 to abottabad a sobering intensive report kirkus reviews

The Return of Al-Qaeda 2006

against all odds an al qaeda cell finds its way back to the united states the terror group is about to carry out its most destructive attacks yet when the unexpected happens the return of al qaeda is a combination of history and contemporary fiction hisconfic dele ajaja blends times gone by and current issues to create a marriage of real events and pure imagination this is an intuitive educative and informative thriller that exposes hatred

Al Qaeda's Global Crisis 2015-01-30

this book focuses on the crises facing al qaeda and how the mass killing of muslims is challenging its credibility as a leader among islamist jihadist organizations the book argues that these crises are directly related to al qaeda s affiliation with the extreme violence employed against muslims in iraq syria afghanistan and pakistan in the decade since 9 11 al qaeda s public and private responses to this violence differ greatly while in public al qaeda has justified those attacks declaring that for the establishment of a state of true believers they are a necessary evil in private al qaeda has been advising its local affiliates to refrain from killing muslims to better understand the crises facing al qaeda the book explores the development of central al qaeda s complex relationship with radical mis appropriations and manifestations of takfir which allows one muslim to declare another an unbeliever and its unique relationship with each of its affiliates in iraq syria afghanistan and pakistan the author then goes on to consider how the prominence of takfir is contributing to the deteriorating security in those countries and how this is affecting al qaeda s credibility as an islamist terror organization the book concludes by considering the long term viability of al qaeda and how its demise could allow the rise of the even more radical violent islamic state and the implications this has for the future security of the middle east north africa

and central south asia this book will be of much interest to students of political violence and terrorism islamism global security and ir

The Syrian Jihad 2016-01-02

the eruption of the anti assad revolution in syria has had many unintended consequences among which is the opportunity it offered sunni jihadists to establish a foothold in the heart of the middle east that syria s ongoing civil war is so brutal and protracted has only compounded the situation as have developments in iraq and lebanon ranging across the battlefields and international borders have been dozens of jihadi islamist fighting groups of which some coalesced into significant factions such as jabhat al nusra and the islamic state this book assesses and explains the emergence since 2011 of sunni jihadist organizations in syria s fledgling insurgency charts their evolution and situates them within the global islamist project unprecedented numbers of foreign fighters have joined such groups who will almost certainly continue to host them thus external factors in their emergence are scrutinized including the strategic and tactical lessons learned from other jihadist conflict zones and the complex interplay between al qaeda and the islamic state and how it has influenced the jihadist sphere in syria tensions between and conflict within such groups also feature in this indispensable volume

Jihadism Transformed 2016

jihadist narratives have evolved dramatically over the past five years driven by momentous events in the middle east and beyond the death of bin laden the rise and ultimate failure of the arab springs and most notably the rise of the so called islamic state for many years al qaeda pointed to an aspirational future caliphate as their utopian end goal one which allowed them to justify their violent excesses in the here and now the rise of islamic state turned

that aspiration into a dystopic reality and in the process usurped the jihadist narrative from them almost completely breathing new life into the global salafi jihadi movement despite air strikes from above and local disillusionment from below the new caliphate has stubbornly persisted and has been at the heart of isil s growing global appeal this timely collection of essays examines how jihadist narratives have changed globally adapting to these turbulent circumstances area and thematic specialists consider transitions inside the middle east and north africa as well as in south asia sub saharan africa and europe as these analyses demonstrate the success of the isil narrative has been as much about resonance with local contexts as it has been about the appeal of the global idea of a tangible and realised caliphate

An Enemy We Created 2012-08-23

to this day the belief is widespread that the taliban and al qaeda are synonymous that their ideology and objectives are closely intertwined and that they have made common cause against the west for decades in an enemy we created alex strick van linschoten and felix kuehn debunk this myth and reveal the much more complex reality that lies beneath it drawing upon their unprecedented fieldwork in afghanistan as well as their arabic dari and pashtu skills the authors show that the west s present entanglement in afghanistan is predicated on the false assumption that defeating the taliban will forestall further terrorist attacks worldwide while immersing themselves in kandahar society the authors interviewed taliban decision makers field commanders and ordinary fighters thoroughly exploring the complexity of the relationship between the taliban and al qaeda and the individuals who established both groups they show that from the mid 1990s onward the taliban and al qaeda diverged far more often than they converged they also argue that this split creates an opportunity to engage the taliban on two fundamental issues renouncing al qaeda and guaranteeing that afghanistan will not be a sanctuary for international terrorists yet the insurgency is changing and it could soon be too

late to find a political solution the authors contend that certain aspects of the campaign in afghanistan especially night raids the killings of innocent civilians and attempts to fragment and decapitate the taliban are having the unintended consequence of energizing the resistance creating more opportunities for al qaeda and helping it to attain its objectives the first book to fully untangle the myths from the realities in the relationship between the taliban and al qaeda an enemy we created is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand what s really happening in afghanistan

The Rise and Fall of Al-Qaeda 2011-09-14

in this concise and fascinating book fawaz a gerges argues that al qaeda has degenerated into a fractured marginal body kept alive largely by the self serving anti terrorist bureaucracy it helped to spawn in the rise and fall of al qaeda gerges a public intellectual known widely for his expertise on radical ideologies including jihadism argues that the western powers have become mired in a terrorism narrative stemming from the mistaken belief that america is in danger of a devastating attack by a crippled al qaeda to explain why al qaeda is no longer a threat he provides a briskly written history of the organization showing its emergence from the disintegrating local jihadist movements of the mid 1990s not just the afghan resistance of the 1980s as many believe in a desperate effort to rescue a sinking ship by altering its course during this period gerges interviewed many jihadis gaining a first hand view of the movement that bin laden tried to reshape by internationalizing it gerges reveals that transnational jihad has attracted but a small minority within the arab world and possesses no viable social and popular base furthermore he shows that the attacks of september 11 2001 were a major miscalculation no river of fighters flooded from arab countries to defend al qaeda in afghanistan as bin laden expected the democratic revolutions that swept the middle east in early 2011 show that al qaeda today is a non entity which exercises no influence over arabs political life gerges shows that there is a link between the new phenomenon of homegrown

extremism in western societies and the war on terror particularly in afghanistan pakistan and that homegrown terror exposes the structural weakness not strength of bin laden s al qaeda gerges concludes that the movement has splintered into feuding factions neutralizing itself more effectively than any predator drone forceful incisive and written with extensive inside knowledge this book will alter the debate on global terrorism

The History of Terrorism 2007-08

introduction gérard chaliand and arnaud blin terrorism as a strategy of insurgency ariel merari zealots and assassins gérard chaliand and arnaud blin manifestations of terror through the ages gérard chaliand and arnaud blin the invention of modern terror gérard chaliand and arnaud blin anarchist terrorists of the nineteenth century olivier hubac occhipinti russian terrorism 1878 1908 yves terno the golden age of terrorism gérard chaliand and arnaud blin lenin stalin and state terrorism gérard chaliand and arnaud blin terrorism in time of war from war ii to the wars of national liberation gérard chaliand and arnaud blin from 1968 to radical islam gérard chaliand and arnaud blin the roots of islamic radicalism philippe migaux al qaeda philippe migaux the future of the islamist movement philippe migaux suicide operations between war and terrorism françois géré the united states confronting terrorism arnaud blin terrorism in south asia rohan gunaratna

Capture or Kill 2012-01-12

khalid shaikh mohammed and ramzi binalshibh two of bin laden s key lieutenants the masterminds behind the attacks of september 11 based on the only interview these masterminds of terror ever gave to the media as well as extensive follow up research capture or kill may be the closest we will get to the full inside story of the plot while mohammed and binalshibh were among the world s most wanted men and hiding in a safe house in pakistan they summoned star al

jazeera tv reporter yosri fouda for a one of a kind exclusive fouda knew he might well be walking into a trap as wall street journal reporter daniel pearl had done only months before he took the risk and for forty eight hours fouda listened as mohammed head of al qaeda s military committee and binalshibh the link between mohammed atta and the senior al qaeda leadership proudly claimed responsibility for the attacks on new york and the pentagon the first time al qaeda took direct responsibility and detailed for the first time exactly how the plot was conceived and executed the authors uniquely positioned because of their prior unprecedented access and research deliver a thrilling account of what has happened since what has changed in the intervening years to this insidious global network how does osama bin laden s capture and death affect its continuing operation this is a must read for anyone who wants to know not only the full truth behind september 11 but also the implications of recent events for the future of global security

The Terror Years 2016-08-25

ten powerful pieces first published in the new yorker recall the path terror in the middle east has taken from the rise of al qaeda in the 1990s to the recent beheadings of reporters and aid workers by isis with the pulitzer prize winning the looming tower lawrence wright became generally acknowledged as one of our major journalists writing on terrorism in the middle east this collection draws on several articles he wrote while researching that book as well as many that he s written since following where and how al qaeda and its core cult like beliefs have morphed and spread they include an indelible impression of saudi arabia a kingdom of silence under the control of the religious police the syrian film industry then compliant at the edges but already exuding a feeling of the barely masked fury that erupted into civil war the 2006 11 israeli palestinian conflict in gaza a study in disparate values of human lives others continue to look into al qaeda as it forms a master plan for its future experiences a rebellion from within the organization and spins off a growing web of terror in

the world the american response is covered in profiles of two fbi agents and a chief of the cia it ends with the recent devastating piece about the capture and beheading by isis of four american journalists and aid workers and how the us government failed to handle the situation

The Globalization of Martyrdom 2011-04-01

2009 outstanding academic title choice this groundbreaking volume examines the rise and spread of suicide attacks over the past decade sorting through 1 270 terror strikes between 1981 and 2007 assaf moghadam attributes their recent proliferation to the mutually related ascendance of al qaeda and its guiding ideology salafi jihad an extreme interpretation of islam that rejects national boundaries and seeks to create a global muslim community in exploring the roots of the extreme radicalization represented by salafism moghadam finds many causes including western dominance in the arab world the physical diffusion of salafi institutions and actors and the element of opportunity created by the soviet invasion of afghanistan he uses individual examples from the middle east southwest asia and europe to show how the elite leaders of al qaeda and affiliated groups and their foot soldiers interact with one another and how they garner support and a growing number of converts and attackers from the muslim community based on over a decade of empirical research and a critical examination of existing thought on suicide attacks moghadam distinguishes the key characteristics separating globalized suicide strikes from the traditional localized pattern that previously prevailed this unflinching analysis provides new information about the relationship between ideology and suicide attacks and recommends policies focused on containing salafi jihadism

Al-Qaeda 2003-06-27

this is an investigation of the al qaeda phenomenon by jason burke prize winning chief reporter of the the observer and acknowledged as the foremost expert on al qaeda

Season In Hell 2011-11-08

for decades robert r fowler was a dominant force in canadian foreign affairs in one heart stopping minute all of that changed on december 14 2008 fowler acting as the un secretary general s special envoy to niger was kidnapped by al qaeda becoming the highest ranked un official ever held captive along with his colleague louis guay fowler lived slept and ate with his captors for nearly five months gaining rare first hand insight into the motivations of the world s most feared terror group fowler s capture release and subsequent media appearances have helped shed new light on foreign policy and security issues as we enter the second decade of the war on terror a season in hell is fowler s compelling story of his captivity told in his own words but it is also a startlingly frank discussion about the state of a world redefined by clashing civilizations

Combating a Modern Hydra: Al Qaeda and the Global War on Terrorism 2005

combating a modern hydra al qaeda and the global war on terrorism is number eight in the combat studies institute s global war on terrorism gwot occasional paper series this work resulted from discussions at fort leavenworth about the nature of the enemy facing the united states and its allies since 11 september 2001 osama bin laden and his terrorist network had been present at some level in the national and international consciousness since the late 1990s the events of 11 september 2001 and subsequent global operations taken against al qaeda have brought this group to the forefront of the gwot while successes have been achieved in the gwot the enemy has proven to be resilient and adaptive this study by mr sean kalic of the department of military history us army command and general staff college examines modern transnational terrorism from the 1960s to the present day with special emphasis on the

adaptation al qaeda and other nonstate actors have taken in response to the actions of the united states and its allies this work provides a cautionary warning about the likelihood al qaeda will continue to survive and execute missions in the current operating environment mr kalic synthesizes much of the pertinent literature and offers insights into the actions taken to ght terrorists most importantly he advises a continual reevaluation of the threat based on al qaeda s exhibility resiliency and adaptability of cers and soldiers who have recently served in operations against the terrorist worldwide will certainly see utility here as the us army continues its efforts in combating terrorists the thoughts found in this narrative are well worth considering

The World According to Al Qaeda 2007

since the most devastating attack on september 11 2001 when 19 al qaeda operatives hijacked four passenger planes and drove two into the twin towers in new york city and one into the pentagon osama bin laden has been the most wanted man and even chil

Al-Qaeda's Armies 2005

using never before published material arabic language sources and personal interviews from the middle east schanzer examines affiliates in egypt lebanon algeria yemen and iraq the author also shares research from a fact finding mission in iraq where he interviewed al qaeda fighters and one of saddam hussein s former intelligence officers book jacket title summary field provided by blackwell north america inc all rights reserved

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