



THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA COUNTERTERRORISM UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2016

TOP NEWS

Saudi Arabia Sanctions Individuals and Company Linked to Hezbollah

On Oct. 20, Saudi Arabia designated as supporters of terrorism two individuals and one business over their links to Hezbollah.

Those sanctioned are Lebanese nationals Muhammad Al-Mukhtar Falah Kallas and Hasan Jamal-al-Din, and the Iraq-and Lebanon-based Global Cleaners (aka: GLBAL CLEN S.A.R.L.).

The individuals and business sanctioned were designated under the Saudi Law of Terrorism Crimes and Financing and Royal Decree A/44, which targets terrorists and their supporters that act for or on behalf of terrorist organizations. Under the law, any assets under Saudi jurisdiction are frozen, and Saudi citizens or residents are generally prohibited from engaging in any transactions with the individuals or entities.

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Meetings Planned to Defeat Extremism

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Saudi Authorities Foil Terrorist Attack

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NOTABLE QUOTE

“Saudi Arabia experienced a six-fold increase in deaths [due to terrorism] compared to the prior year, with 48 attacks resulting in 107 deaths in 2015. This is the highest level of terrorism Saudi Arabia has experienced since at least 2000. There were more people killed from terrorism in 2015 in Saudi Arabia than in the previous 11 years combined.”

*Global Terrorism Index 2016
The Institute for Economics and Peace*

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or residents are generally prohibited from engaging in any transactions with the individuals or entities.

The Kingdom will continue to label those linked to Hezbollah as terrorists and sanction the individuals or groups according to the Kingdom's laws designed to combat terrorism.

Saudi Arabia has put in place one of the world's strictest financial control systems in order to prevent funds from going to support terrorism. Today, Saudi Arabia is one of the leading nations in combating terrorism and terrorist financing, and has been working closely with its allies on all fronts.

Meetings Planned to Defeat Extremism

The King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue (KACND) is intensifying efforts to boost national cohesion through societal engagement to combat extremism and deviant ideology.

On Oct. 6, the center announced a new initiative, dubbed "Talahom," which will promote meetings aimed at putting into practice the principles of co-existence and national unity.

Secretary-General of KACND, Faisal Al-Muammar, stressed the importance of the initiative as the first

step in multiple projects that will be run by the center in the coming year. He added that these types of projects preserve and enhance the Kingdom's security and strengthen national unity based on shared values.

"What prompted KACND to organize weekly dialogues for the Talahom project is the importance attached to the community participation at all levels to support security and intellectual efforts and promote moderation," said Al-Muammar.

Saudi Authorities Foil Terrorist Attack

Saudi security officials at the Ministry of Interior announced on Oct. 30 that they foiled a plot to bomb the football stadium at King Abdullah Sports City during a World Cup qualifying match between Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Spokesman for the Ministry of Interior Major General Mansour Al-Turki said that the authorities were able to identify and prevent plans aimed at the Kingdom by monitoring of terrorist threats targeting security installations in the Kingdom and dealing with those linked to Daesh abroad.



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General Mansour noted that law enforcement agencies raided a terrorist cell made up of four people, based in Shaqraa. The cell was planning activities targeting security forces based on orders from a Daesh terrorist leader in Syria.

All four members of the cell were arrested. They were identified as Ahmad bin Mohammed bin Homood Al-Maeeli, Abdullah bin Obaid bin Mihmas Al-Osaimi Al-Otaibi, Abdulaziz bin Faisal bin Jafeen Al-Daajani Al-Otaibi, and Mujahid bin Rashid bin Mohammed Al-Rashid.

Al-Turki said that during investigations the individuals admitted a direct link between the cell and members of Daesh in Syria, and that they had been monitoring a number of security officers working in Tabuk, Riyadh and the Eastern Province, pending instructions from abroad to target them with violent acts.

Six other members also were arrested for their links with the cell members. Additional investigations are underway to identify their exact connection with the cell and its activities.

Saudi Officials Arrest Five on Terrorism Charges

Police arrested five people — four foreigners and one Saudi — in September for links to terrorist groups and recent terrorism operations in Saudi Arabia.

The Kingdom is pursuing the men, the money, and the mindsets that support this global threat. It has forged

partnerships with multilateral organizations and foreign governments to protect national security and reinforce counterterrorism strategies.

Saudi Arabia to Provide Counterterrorism Training to Malaysia

The government of Malaysia is sending 10 senior security specialists to Saudi Arabia to study, do research and exchange ideas at the Prince Mohammad bin Naif Center for Security Studies.

“We want to benefit from the experience of the Kingdom in counseling and countering extremist ideology with moderation, argument and proof,” said the Malaysian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Zainol Rahim Zainuddin.

Hamidi said that he discussed with King Salman solutions to protect Southeast Asian countries from

the threat of terrorism carried out by Daesh (ISIS), which has recruited individuals from these countries. In the discussion, an understanding was reached that Saudi Arabia and Malaysia would continue to exchange knowledge on experiences with combating terrorism and extremist ideology.

In addition, Hamidi praised the counseling practices applied by Saudi Arabia, pointing to the Prince Mohammad bin Naif Center as a “unique model to counter extremist ideology with moderate ideology.”



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**Counterterrorism
Update**



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