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Biographies of Al-Qaida's "Distinguished Martyrs" in Mesopotamia" (Abu Musab al-Zarqawi)



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• Al-Hazbar al-Nahdi

"In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious Most Merciful... Al-Hazbar al-Nahdi ['The Lion from al-Nahed']: 'I shall make my way to Paradise even if I limp all the way.' He was a righteous man who drew his strength from Allah. He was the most sincere and pure person I had ever laid eyes on. He was true to Allah and we would like to think that [Allah] rewarded him with the best reward possible... Who was he? He was a wealthy young man from al-Nahed, Saudi Arabia. He led a lavish lifestyle and knew all about pleasure and luxury. Nonetheless, he turned his back on all of this, and instead answered the call of Allah while living for the sake of Jihad. He had read what his Lord said about answering the call to battle and also was familiar with what Abu Ayyub al-Ansari said. He was likewise aware that the scholars had said that no one is excused [from answering the call for Jihad]. He was about to embark on a journey,



and even began to say farewell to his family and prepare himself for the occasion—however, the devil inside him began to whisper in his ear: 'how can you go when you have a valid excuse not to go? Aren't you physically disabled from polio? Your leg won't carry you if you walk slowly, not to mention if you run. Your left arm is practically useless, so how will you carry a weapon?'"

"The beloved martyr cried and shed tears. He then found what he was looking for when he read the story of the honorable companion of the Prophet Amro bin al-Jumoo, may Allah bless him, who said: 'I hope to limp my way to paradise.' In response, he explained, 'We share the same wish indeed.' And so he made his way to the courageous battlefield. Despite being excused by Allah he refused to give himself any respite. He faced a tough battle with a merciless enemy, yet neither his wealth nor his excuses why not to fight held him back from charging towards the war zone. I personally met the man and was surprised that he came [to Iraq], but this charming and cheerful young man simply gave you no chance to be surprised. He would delightfully greet you, while praising you as if you had been his friend for years."



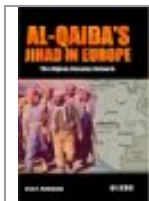
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“[Al-Nahdi] bought a light personal weapon so that he would be able to easily carry and use it. As he guarded his brothers, the sentiment that would best describe what he was feeling at the time would be, ‘Even if I won’t be able to defend you, I will at least shout and give you a warning need be’... In the morning of the day of his martyrdom, he was awoken by the fooling about of his brother Abu al-Hassan and his shaking. [Al-Nahdi] woke up and said, ‘I’m going to become a martyr today at 6 p.m.’ Abu al-Hassan laughed and replied cheerfully, ‘Get up so that I don’t have to break your head in order to wake you up, you’re the best!’”

“A number of brothers were then preparing to fire some mortars. Among them was Abu al-Hassan. Al-Hazbar volunteered to go with them and so they left. The group positioned their mortar tube and shelled an enemy convoy with mortar rounds. They successfully set two vehicles ablaze before reloading the launcher with additional mortar shells. All of the brothers huddled around the mortar launcher. Abu Ahmad glanced through his binoculars and fired an additional round. Suddenly, Abu al-Hassan froze in his place when he sighted a tank positioned on a bridge in the distance. The tank’s cannon was aimed toward the brothers and he saw it firing an artillery shell toward them. Abu al-Hassan noticed the flash of light when the shell was fired—and before he could say anything, a piece of shrapnel struck him right by his eye. Another piece of shrapnel was lodged inside Abu Ahmad’s neck. Other pieces of shrapnel were embedded inside another brother’s chest, yet all of the injuries that had been sustained were minor. The person farthest from where the mortar launcher was positioned was Al-Hazbar. The others fled from where the mortar launcher was located in order to seek cover from the shrapnel. Al-Hazbar, however, did not flee and suffered a fatal blow when a piece of shrapnel pierced his heart and another struck his head... This happened at precisely 6pm... All that is left for me to add is that it had been only a month or so between the time that the martyr first arrived in the land of jihad and [the day of] his martyrdom. I ask Allah to reward us with someone worthy of his replacement.”



Scenes from a January 2006 Al-Qaida mortar attack on U.S. forces west of Baghdad, Iraq



Al-Qaida’s Jihad in Europe: the Afghan-Bosnian Network

“For Bin Laden’s involvement in the Bosnian conflicts, see Evan F. Kohlmann, Al-Qaida’s Jihad in Europe.” - U.S. 9/11 Commission Final Report (July 2004)

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