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## Profiles of Saudi Arabian Islamic Militants Killed in Iraq: 2004-2005



- Khalid Al-Sulayti (Abu Mitan al-Saudi)
  - Date of Death: May 6, 2004
  - Khalid al-Sulayti was from the town of Hail in northern Saudi Arabia. According to Arab media, many families in Hail have received news about the deaths of their missing sons in Iraq either through direct telephone calls or through posts on Internet sites.
  - On May 6, al-Sulayti served as a suicide bomber in an attack on the Iraqi capital, detonating over 600kg of explosives at a U.S. military checkpoint on the 14 July Bridge, just a few yards away from the secure Green Zone. The attack killed at least five Iraqis and one American national.
  - Abu Musab al-Zarqawi later took credit for the suicide bombing on the 14 July Bridge in a statement posted on the Internet.
- Abdulrahman bin Ali Al-Ahmari
  - Date of Death: June 10, 2004
  - Al-Ahmari was from southern Saudi Arabia, but his father is currently living in Riyadh. Abdulrahman was “martyred” while in the environs of Baghdad, but nothing further is known about his fate.
  - Contacted via telephone, his family was adamantly proud of him and his sacrifice, but refused to give any further information because, according to them, “our son did not die for publicity.”
- Walid Al-Asmar bin Saadi al-Ramali Al-Shamri
  - Date of Death: June 15, 2004.
  - Al-Shamri, 25-years old, was an orphan from Saudi Arabia. According to his brother, after receiving his initial high school degree, al-Shamri had been unemployed for at least the last three years prior to leaving for Iraq.
  - In the spring of 2004, al-Shamri suddenly disappeared from his home in Saudi Arabia, and his family heard no news about him until approximately two weeks before his death. At that point, he contacted them by phone from Iraq to tell them that he was participating in armed jihad against the American occupation. According to his brother, al-Shamri fought in Iraq for at least two months



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prior to his death. Walid's brother told Reuters by telephone, "I believe he belonged to the Tawheed wal-Jihad Movement." Al-Shamri's family was later instructed by Saudi authorities not to discuss their son with anyone else.

- On June 15, al-Shamri served as the suicide bomber in an attack near a military checkpoint in Baghdad. The blast, which occurred in a crowded street, killed at least five foreign contractors—including two Britons, a Frenchman, and an American—and wounded ten others.
- Abu Musab al-Zarqawi claimed responsibility for the suicide bombing in a statement posted the same day on the Internet.

- Ali Bin Fahd al-Dakheel Al-Qiblan

- Date of Death: September 17, 2004
- Al-Qiblan, born in 1981, was from the conservative town of Buraidah in Saudi Arabia. In 2002, he began to gradually grow more fundamentalist in his religion and mix with the "young men of jihad." Al-Qiblan grew progressively more interested in the concept of jihad and the prospect of traveling to the "battlefields of honor and dignity."
- Subsequently, al-Qiblan was able to find a way into Iraq, first joining up with Sunni insurgents in the city of Mosul. Two days before a major military operation was to take place farther south, al-Qiblan moved from Mosul to the city of Fallujah after being chosen to be among the attacking squadron.
- On September 17 at 9:30pm, he was carrying his RPG on his shoulder when his unit was suddenly spotted by U.S. forces prior to launching their attack. The unit was bombed by U.S. military aircraft, and al-Qiblan and his comrades were killed. His body was transferred to Fallujah and buried in the martyr's cemetery there.

- Bandar al-Badri

- Date of Death: October 2, 2004
- Bandar al-Badri was a 19-year old Saudi national from Jeddah and a second year engineering student at King Abdel Aziz University. According to his family and friends, he was "obsessed with jihad and only talked only jihad." He used to frequently discuss with his parents the ongoing jihads in Afghanistan and Iraq and his mother eventually encouraged him, replying, "if you want to go, then go."
- In March 2004, al-Badri decided to travel in search of jihad in Iraq with his best friend from high school Abu Ibadah al-Zahiri (a.k.a. Ahmad al-Zahiri). Their first attempt to enter Iraq failed; however, later that summer, the two tried again and succeeded in entering the country. They headed towards the central Iraqi city of Fallujah, where they fought for two months until they were both slain in combat. Al-Badri was reportedly killed at 2 a.m. during a U.S. airstrike.
- Al-Badri spoke frequently with his family while he was in Iraq and would send them text messages with his cell phone. In one message, He appealed to his brother, "tell all my relatives that I know how sad my mother has been since I





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left, but we have many other women in Abu Ghraib prison who have been tortured and raped by the Americans. Should I abandon them and return home? Never... I shall return victorious after I have saved them. Your Brother, the Lion.”

- Al-Badri wrote a martyrdom will before he left Saudi Arabia to fight in the jihad in Iraq.
- **Majed bin Shafi Al-Baqmi**
  - Date of Death: approximately October 15, 2004
  - Majed, 28-years old, had been a longtime supporter of the mujahideen and Al-Qaida. Since 2000, he had made multiple unsuccessful attempts to travel to an ongoing jihad. When the U.S. invaded Afghanistan, he attempted to join the Taliban by leaving through Syria; however, this effort also failed.
  - Majed’s potential terrorist activities were allegedly well known to Saudi authorities. During an investigation of Al-Qaida cells in the Kingdom, Saudi police arrested Majed while his pregnant wife was in the hospital. His supporters accuse the police of causing Majed’s terrified wife to have a miscarriage, and assert that he was immediately released from custody by embarrassed Saudi officials who feared being held responsible by the public for the death of the fetus. A month later, the Saudis re-arrested Majed, interrogated him, and then released him yet again. According to his supporters, Majed began receiving threats from the Saudi police that if he did not stop his Al-Qaida activities, they would take the necessary measures. While the Saudis hesitated over what to do with him, Majed fled his homeland in order to join in the jihad in Iraq.
  - The first four times he attempted to cross the border into Iraq met with failure. Finally, on the fifth time, he was able to enter Iraq (presumably through Syria) and was later martyred there in mid-October under unspecified circumstances.
- **Mohammed bin Sanad Al-Shamri (a.k.a. Abu Sufyan)**
  - Date of Death: October 15, 2004
  - Mohammed al-Shamri was reportedly from the Sali district east of the Saudi capital Riyadh. His brother, Saud bin Sanad Al-Shamri, is also a current resident of Riyadh.
  - Mohammed was killed on October 15 while fighting alongside Islamic insurgents in the Iraqi city of Fallujah.
- **Mufrij bin Jahaz Al-Harbi (a.k.a. Abu Sahil)**
  - Date of Death: October 15, 2004
  - Mufrij al-Harbi was reportedly from the Sali district east of the Saudi capital Riyadh. He was killed on October 15 while fighting alongside Islamic insurgents in the Iraqi city of Fallujah.
- **Fahd al-Dughailibi Al-Otaibi**
  - Date of Death: October 21, 2004
  - Allegedly, Fahd al-Dughailibi Al-Otaibi was the nephew of most wanted Saudi Al-Qaida suspect and terrorist ideologue Sultan Bjad Sadoun al-Otaibi.
  - Fahd was reportedly “martyred while defending one of the fortified frontiers of wounded Iraq.”



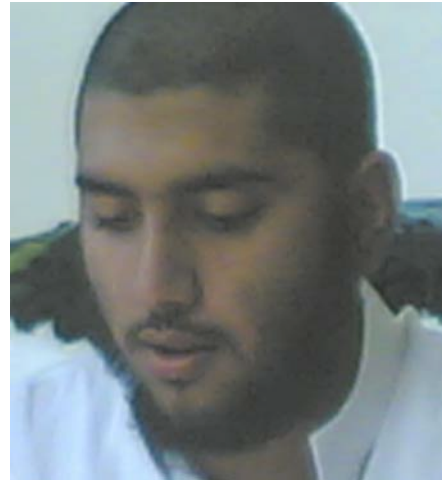
*Saudi Al-Qaida member Sultan Sadoun Al-Otaibi*





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- Yousef al-Johani, 21-years old, was a native of the city of Tabuk in northern Saudi Arabia. Prior to the war in Iraq, Yousef was in his first year of studies at the Teachers' College in his hometown of Tabuk.
  - Three months before U.S. authorities seized the capital of Baghdad from Saddam Hussein in 2003, Yousef and a group of companions first entered Iraq seeking to fight in the jihad against America. The group was initially forced to leave Iraq when Baghdad fell to U.S. forces in April.
  - However, sometime after departing the battlefield, Yousef and his friends once again sought to enter Iraq for purposes of jihad through Syria, and were arrested by Syrian authorities. The Syrians promptly handed over the group to Saudi authorities, who investigated and eventually released them.
  - Only days after the end of Ramadan in November 2004, Yousef slipped out of Saudi Arabia again, and back into Iraq in order to join the insurgency battling U.S. forces in Fallujah. He was killed on approximately November 20 under unspecified circumstances allegedly “at the hands of the American army in Fallujah.”
- Adil bin Ali Al-Falaj
    - Date of Death: December 9, 2004
    - Adil al-Falaj was a Saudi national from the Al-Khabibiya neighborhood in the northern town of Buraidah. In early December, he was responsible for a suicide car bombing targeting an American convoy, allegedly killing eleven Americans and destroying a number of vehicles.
  - Ahmed bin Said bin Omar al-Ghamdi (a.k.a. Abu al-Miqdad al-Ghamdi)
    - Date of Death: December 29, 2004
    - Ahmed al-Ghamdi was born in 1985 to the wife of a Saudi diplomat. Al-Ghamdi's father would later serve as the Kingdom's charge d'affaires at the Saudi embassy in Khartoum, Sudan.
    - Even after his father's eventual return to Saudi Arabia, Ahmed stayed on in Sudan, enrolling in the Faculty of Medicine at the Islamic University in Umm Durman. Colleagues of al-Ghamdi describe the university as “distinguished by its Islamic nature, where one does not find a mix as in most universities—because the university system usually mixes the material sciences and the authentic sciences [religion].”
    - While at Umm Durman, Ahmed al-Ghamdi developed progressively conservative religious beliefs, growing a beard and strictly following the rulings of prominent Salafist clerics. He was known to frequent the Al-Hijra Mosque in the Riyadh district of Khartoum, where he was last reported seen in June 2004.
    - In early November 2004, Ahmed suddenly abandoned his studies in Sudan, telling his friends that he was returning to Saudi Arabia. One colleague indicated that Ahmed had decided to leave after listening to audio recordings of





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- Shaykh Khalid al-Rashid received as a gift from his mother.
- Back in Saudi Arabia, Ahmed visited briefly with his family and then toured the Holy Mosque in the city of Mecca. After a short period of personal reflection, al-Ghamdi decided to travel further and join the mujahideen in Iraq.
- Though the route to jihad in Iraq can often take months to arrange, Ahmed was reportedly able to arrange passage in only one week by signing up for the Martyrs Brigade of Al-Qaida’s Jihad Committee in Mesopotamia. He last contacted his family on December 16 to inform them that he had arrived in Iraq in order to fight the Americans.
- Within only days of entering Iraq, al-Ghamdi purchased a truck and explosives with his own money in order to participate in a suicide operation in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. The operation was initially given to Abu Monzer al-Falastini (from the Palestinian territories), however Ahmed agreed to execute it on his behalf.
- On December 29, Ahmed al-Ghamdi boarded his truck and crashed it into a building used by Iraqi security forces in Mosul, detonating a devastating load of ordinance. Insurgents filmed al-Ghamdi’s suicide truck bombing attack from three separate angles. The video footage was subsequently released on the Internet by Al-Qaida’s Jihad Committee in Mesopotamia.



● Abu Nour al-Najdi

- Date of Death: January 30, 2005
- Abu Nour al-Najdi was a wealthy businessman with a family and children in Saudi Arabia. However, “eager to meet his creator”, he nevertheless decided to travel to Iraq seeking “combat [and] jihad.”
- While in Iraq, Abu Nour joined the Martyrs Brigade of Al-Qaida’s Jihad Committee in Mesopotamia. His comrades commented that Abu Nour “loved to kill the Americans and to take his revenge.”
- According to Abul-Harith al-Ansari, Abu Nour was hesitant when he first joined Al-Qaida’s Martyrs Brigade, fearful of the consequences of spilling innocent blood in a suicide operation. His reluctance was resolved after he was told of the dream of another Al-Qaida member:



*“While his friend Abul-Harith al-Ansari was sleeping, he dreamt about a phone ringing with the number 19 showing. Then, the voice [on the phone] asked, ‘Do you know the 19 men who attacked the fortresses of the Americans and destroyed the [World] Trade Center?’ And he answered yes. Then, while showing the picture of Abu Nour, the voice told him: ‘This is person number 20.’ The voice then repeated the above three times and caused al-Ansari to awake from his sleep and describe his vision to Abu Nour.”*



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- On the day of the first Iraqi elections, Abu Nour donned a suicide vest (a belt packed with explosives) and expensive clothing on top as a disguise. Then, he traveled to the Badr Kobra school in Baghdad—a designated polling place—and detonated his vest, allegedly killing 15 people according to Al-Qaida. Video of Abu Nour’s corpse along with his biography were later distributed by Al-Qaida’s Jihad Committee in Mesopotamia.
- **Abu Anas al-Tuhami**
  - Date of Death: January 30, 2005
  - A friend of Abu Nour al-Najdi, Abu Anas al-Tuhami was also a suicide bomber on Iraqi national election day. Abu Anas was born an orphan and was raised by his grandfather, who “taught him the values of goodness and righteousness. He was taught to love paradise and to be courageous and persistent. He was schooled in the verses of the Jihad, O’ what a wonderful education!”
  - Abu Yousef al-Ansari—a friend of Abu Anas—described him as very tall and thin. Before leaving his homeland, Abu Anas had sought the permission of his father to participate in jihad, which was duly given. Later, he spoke with his parents from Iraq on the telephone, boasting to them that they would “soon hear some good news, if Allah willed it.”
  - Moments before leaving for his suicide mission, Abu Anas donated the rest of his money to his comrades and was then asked by Abu Yousef al-Ansari whether he would return to their base “if he failed to execute the operation. He never answered my question... He wished to blow himself up against the Americans and said, ‘It is a blessing from Allah if it is the Americans, the pagan guard, or the apostate police.’”
  - Shortly after his death, Al-Qaida’s Jihad Committee in Mesopotamia released the following martyrdom will attributed to Abu Anas al-Tuhami:

*“In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. All praise be to Allah, and prayers to his messenger Mohammed, his family, and all his followers. Anyone who examines the situation of our Islamic nation will witness it torn apart by bleeding wounds—the wounds in Palestine that are almost 50 years old and also the wounds of Chechnya, Afghanistan, Kashmir, Indonesia, Philippines and Iraq—while we are consumed with our own pleasures and desires. Our holy places have been violated, our mosques were destroyed, and the Quran was disgraced. What kind of state are we living in? Are these wounds causing us any distress or do we just not care? O’ young men of the Islamic nation, if you support Allah, then he will grant you victory and make you stronger. What will your death be? Don’t we only have one opportunity to die? Then why should we not do it for the cause of Allah and as a sign of the victory of his religion in order to raise the flag of Islam and as revenge against the enemies of our religion, because they are weak and Allah is our guide? No matter how strong they become, they will not be able to stand against the Muslims. O’ young men of this Islamic nation, be strong and enlist in the cause of Allah so that the Islamic nation will be relieved of its current crisis. If we will not stand for this Islamic nation, then it will remain in its current sinful crisis. We are the ones who are needed to win victory for this religion because our sins are endless and Allah, Lord of the Worlds, promised us through his messenger that if we are killed in his cause, then all our sins will be forgiven at the moment the first drop of blood leaves our bodies. Moreover, the kindness of Allah goes far beyond forgiving sins, because it extends to saving us from the ultimate judgment, marriage to 72 virgins, and interceding on behalf of 70 members of the martyr’s family... I am among those who... will go to the fields of pride and honor... I have*



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*divorced myself from this life, and Allah is my witness. Prayers to his messenger. Your brother, Abu Anas al-Tuhami of the Martyrs Brigade.”*

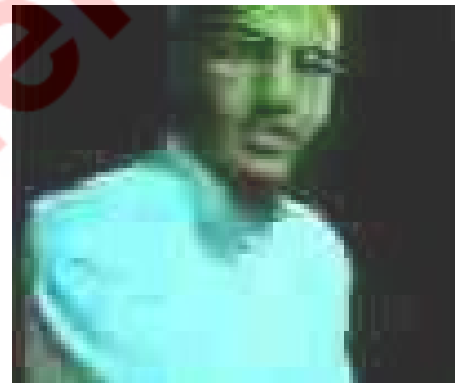
- Saleh bin Mohammed al-Fahaid (a.k.a. Suraqah al-Tabuki)
  - Date of Death: March 27, 2005
  - Saleh al-Fahaid, also known as Suraqah al-Tabuki, was a 23-year old Saudi national from the town of Buraidah. In 1999, al-Fahaid traveled to Afghanistan in search of jihad, attending Al-Qaida's Al-Farooq camp for “commando” training and fighting alongside the Taliban until the occupation of Kabul in late 2001. Afterwards, he traveled with other mujahideen to the city of Kandahar, and eventually returned back to Saudi Arabia.
  - Staying only briefly in the Kingdom, al-Fahaid moved on—first to Sudan and then to Iraq—with his friend Ali al-Dakheel. Al-Fahaid and al-Dakheel arrived in Iraq just prior to the commencement of Operation Iraqi Freedom in March 2003. Al-Dakheel was reportedly killed in September 2004 during a U.S. airstrike in Abu Ghraib while alongside Abu Anas al-Shami (a.k.a. Omar Yousef Jumah, former top deputy to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in Iraq).
  - Saleh al-Fahaid survived nearly two years of combat in Iraq, frequently speaking with his parents on the telephone and insisting to them, “whoever loves me should allow me to martyr myself.” He was killed during a subsequent battle with U.S. military forces in central Iraq in late March 2005.
  
- Badr bin Salim al-Sharari (a.k.a. Abu Rahaf al-Joufi)
  - Date of Death: approximately April 2005
  - Badr al-Sharari (a.k.a. Abu Rahaf al-Joufi), a 27-year old Saudi national with a young daughter, first experienced jihad in Afghanistan, where he went after 9/11 seeking to “fight the Americans”—staying there for approximately six months.
  - Afterwards, he received orders from Al-Qaida commanders to return with other operatives to Saudi Arabia. Upon his return, the Saudi secret police allegedly questioned al-Joufi regarding his trip to Afghanistan, and he was imprisoned for almost four months. He was only released after his passport was seized—“however, this action didn't weaken his desire for jihad.”
  - Lacking a passport, Abu Rahaf was unable to leave for Iraq via Syria as have many other Saudi Al-Qaida recruits. In approximately November 2004, he departed for the Saudi border with Iraq where he met with other Al-Qaida operatives who were waiting to escort him to Baghdad. He later “martyred himself in battles with the Americans” in central Iraq.
  
- Hadi bin Mubarak al-Qahtani
  - Date of Death: April 11, 2005
  - Hadi al-Qahtani was a young Saudi national who had grown up “fooling around and not paying to” politics or religion. However, his life reportedly shifted direction “after the holy attack that demolished the foolish infidel Americans and caused many young men to awaken from their deep sleep. The actions of those 19 heroes [i.e. the 9/11 hijackers] changed the course of our Islamic nation and also awakened the entire nation, making it swell with pride, with the help of Allah. Hadi was among those who changed his ways and instead chose the religion of Allah. He was—may Allah have mercy on his soul—among those who eagerly called the people to Allah and was eager to martyr himself.”
  - In the spring of 2005, Hadi al-Qahtani was able to enter Iraq and shortly thereafter “martyred himself” on April 11 in the restive Iraqi border town of Al-Qaim.



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- **Saud bin Mohammed bin Saud al-Fahaid**

- Date of Death: May 3, 2005
- Saud al-Fahaid was a young Saudi national “in his early twenties” from the Al-Aflaj region and a former student at the Al-Imam University in Riyadh. His parents also live in western Riyadh.
- In late March, al-Fahaid left Saudi Arabia for Iraq “in order to declare jihad with his brothers there.” However, after a month of fighting, al-Fahaid had second thoughts and wanted to return to his family in Saudi Arabia. He called his parents from the airport in Damascus, Syria—informing them of his intended return.
- However, while in Syria, al-Fahaid met with several Saudi friends of his who were traveling to Iraq in order to fight in jihad against the U.S. military. He reconsidered his decision to leave Iraq, and decided to return to fight once again in jihad there.
- The group of Saudi nationals were “easily” able to re-enter Iraq on April 30, and three days later, al-Fahaid was killed under unknown circumstances. On May 5, Saud’s friends contacted his parents and informed them of his “martyrdom.”



- **Shaykh Abdallah al-Rashood**

- Date of Death: approximately mid-June, 2005
- Shaykh Abdallah al-Rashood was born in 1968 in the Saudi city of Medina. Aspiring to become a religious cleric, Rashood completed a degree in Shariah (Islamic Law) at the Al-Imam University in Riyadh before becoming a professor there in Shariah.
- In the mid-1990s, al-Rashood joined the ranks of other younger, extreme Salafist clerics in the Kingdom and quit his official post at the University.
- More recently, al-Rashood has served as the spiritual leader of Al-Qaida’s Committee in Saudi Arabia—issuing, among other things, several fatwahs denouncing the Saudi regime as “apostate” and “illegitimate.” In 2003, he was designated as one of Saudi Arabia’s 26 most wanted Al-Qaida terrorist suspects.
- Shaykh Abdallah al-Rashood also directly incited attacks on the Saudi royal family in statements published in Sawt al-Jihad (“Voice of Jihad”), the official publication of Al-Qaida’s Committee in Saudi Arabia. In October 2003, Al-Sahab Media Productions recorded a lecture of Abdallah al-Rashood on behalf of Al-Qaida’s Committee in Saudi Arabia. During his



