
Salafi Jihadism The History Of An Idea

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PITTS PIERRE

The Master Plan

Oxford University Press
"Anyone who wants to understand the world we live in now should read this book."

—Lawrence Wright To eliminate the scourge of terrorism, we must first know who the enemy actually is, and what his motivations are. In *Anatomy of Terror*, former FBI special agent and New York Times best-selling author Ali Soufan

dissects Osama bin Laden's brand of jihadi terrorism and its major offshoots, revealing how these organizations were formed, how they operate, their strengths, and—crucially—their weaknesses. This riveting account examines the new Islamic radicalism through the stories of its flag-bearers, including a U.S. Air Force colonel who once served Saddam Hussein, a provincial bookworm who declared himself caliph of all Muslims, and bin Laden's own beloved son Hamza, a prime candidate to lead the organization his late father founded. *Anatomy of Terror* lays bare the psychology and inner workings of al-Qaeda, the Islamic

State, and their spawn, and shows how the spread of terror can be stopped. Winner of the Airey Neave Memorial Book Prize
The ISIS Reader Oxford University Press, USA
 With ramifications on geopolitics today, a vivid chronicle of the Christian and Islamic struggle to control the sacred places of Palestine and the Middle East between the seventh and thirteenth centuries. Crusade and jihad are often reckoned to have represented two sides of the same coin: each resonated on the opposing sides in the holy wars of the Middle Ages and each has been invoked during the war on terror. A chronicle of the Christian and Islamic struggle to control the sacred places of

Palestine and the Middle East between the seventh and thirteenth centuries, this dynamic new history demonstrates that this simple opposition ignores crucial differences. Placing an equal emphasis on the inner histories of Christianity and Islam, the book traces the origins and development of crusade and jihad, showing for example that jihad reflected internal tensions in Islam from its beginnings. The narrative also reveals the ways in which crusade and jihad were used to disguise ambitions for power and to justify atrocity and yet also inspired acts of great chivalry and heroic achievement. The story brims with larger than

life characters, among them Richard the Lionheart, Nur al-Din, Saladin, Baybars, and Ghengiz Khan. Lambert concludes by considers the long after-effects of jihad and crusade, including the role of the latter in French imperialism and of the former in the wars now afflicting the Middle East and parts of Africa. This vivid, balanced account will interest all readers who wish to understand the complexities of the medieval world and how it relates our own. *The ISIS Apocalypse* Cambridge University Press
A groundbreaking assessment of the life and ideology of Abu Muhammad al-Maqdisi, one of the most influential radical Muslim thinkers alive today.

A Persistent Threat

Oxford University Press
 Revolutionary
 Gnosticism is a
 movement common to
 several revolutionary
 phenomena, such as
 Nazism and
 Bolshevism. Arrigo is
 the first scholar to
 study Salafi- Jihadism
 in gnostic terms to
 reveal the movement's
 will of redeeming
 humankind from Evil
 and building the
 perfect society, leaving
 God without a
 possibility of
 intervening in human
 affairs.

Salafi-jihadism

Georgetown University
 Press
 The present volume
 offers nineteen studies
 of takfir: accusations of
 unbelief, covering
 different periods and
 parts of the Muslim
 world. Takfir was and is
 an effective instrument

to delegitimize one's
 opponents, who may
 face social exclusion or
 even persecution.

Jihadism Transformed

Penguin UK

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. *The Mind of the Islamic State* Yale University Press
'A groundbreaking study ... a masterclass in how to do intellectual history, and one that nobody with an interest in radical Islam should miss' Tom Holland, New Statesman
'Readers looking for a rigorous but lucid account of Islamic State's ideas will be well-served by Maher's book ... the first of its kind' Kyle W. Orton, Wall Street Journal
No topic has gripped the public imagination so dramatically as the spectre of global jihadism. While much has been said about the way jihadists

behave, their ideology remains poorly understood. Shiraz Maher charts the intellectual underpinnings of salafi-jihadism from its origins in the mountains of the Hindu Kush to the jihadist insurgencies of the 1990s and the 9/11 wars. His groundbreaking introduction to salafi-jihadism recalibrates our understanding of the ideas underpinning one of the most destructive political philosophies of our time. 'Magisterial ... Essential reading' Robin Yassin-Kassab, The National 'Shiraz Maher, a leading authority on contemporary Islamic extremism, traces the evolution of the key ideas behind one of the most significant religious and political

movements of our time. Comprehensive, important and timely' Jason Burke, author of Al-Qaeda 'A work of genuine interest and originality ... indispensable' David Patrikarakos, Literary Review *Your Sons Are at Your Service* Oxford University Press, USA The spectre of Boko Haram and its activities in Nigeria dominates both media and academic analysis of Islam in the region. But, as Alexander Thurston argues here, beyond the sensational headlines this group generates, the dynamics of Muslim life in northern Nigeria remain poorly understood. Drawing on interviews with leading Salafis in Nigeria as well as on a rereading of the history

of the global Salafi movement, this volume explores how a canon of classical and contemporary texts defines Salafism. Examining how these texts are interpreted and - crucially - who it is that has the authority to do so, Thurston offers a systematic analysis of curricula taught in Saudi Arabia and how they shape religious scholars' approach to religion and education once they return to Africa. Essential for scholars of religion and politics, this unique text explores how the canon of Salafism has been used and refined, from Nigeria's return to democracy to the jihadist movement Boko Haram.

Understanding Terror Networks Cambridge University Press

Traces the evolution of the ISIS ideology, from its origins in the prison writings of the revolutionary jihadist Sayyid Qutb, through the thinking of Osama bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri, in a book that is essential reading for anyone concerned about terrorist violence. -- Publisher

Global Insurgency Strategy and the Salafi Jihad Movement JHU Press

This unflinching analysis provides new information about the relationship between ideology and suicide attacks and recommends policies focused on containing Salafi Jihadism.

Salafism in Jordan Oxford University Press

Salafi-Jihadist groups such as al-Qaeda, Boko Haram, and ISIS

threaten U.S. national security and the stability of the Middle East. The ongoing fighting in Syria and Iraq and Salafi-Jihadist global terrorist attacks from Paris to Mali show that we understand relatively little about how this radical ideology propounds violent goals and propels its followers to devise strategies to achieve them. The United States has fought al-Qaeda affiliates and ISIS for fifteen years without preventing them from plotting and executing attacks against the interests of the United States and its allies. For a military approach (i.e., an organized, executable degrading strategy) to be effective in countering an unconventional threat such as Salafi-

Jihadism, it must be based on the richest possible profile of the group's mindset. This monograph asserts that to understand the Salafi-Jihadist movement, two historical time periods must be examined: 1960-1978 and the year 1979. The former period marked the era of the Arab cold war, a zero-sum struggle between Egyptian-led Pan-Arabism and Saudi-led Pan-Islamism. The defeat of Pan-Arabism resulted in a seismic transfer of power from Egypt to Saudi Arabia, which remains unchallenged today in its dominance of the Sunni world and unhindered in its financial support to Salafi-Jihadi groups. However, no single year in the post-World War II era was more

important to the Middle East than 1979. In that year, the Iranian revolution challenged Saudi Arabia for control of the Muslim world, Salafis tested the Saudi regime by besieging the Grand Mosque in Mecca, and Muslim nations worldwide reacted violently to the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan. The historical events that transpired from 1960 through 1979 significantly altered the political landscape of the Middle East and also led to the militarization of Salafism.

Introduction *
 The Roots of Salafi-Jihadism *
 Pan-Islamism *
 1979 *
 Conclusion

Should political leaders and media pundits be baffled and shocked by the flight of Iraqi security forces and the

citizens of Mosul in the face of ISIS? A brief study of Middle Eastern history would have sufficed to familiarize them with the vicious Salafi-Jihadist ideology that legitimizes the actions of ISIS, dispelling the common, simplistic view of today's jihadists as medieval apocalyptical fanatics who kill for the sake of killing. Salafi-Jihadist ideology provides just cause and proper authority for waging war against apostate governments and Western targets. If we fail to understand the history and theory underlying Salafi-Jihadist groups' use of violence to topple regimes and impose sharia, we will not grasp the current operating environment or enemy doctrine. As Stephen Coughlin has

said, "The United States is currently fighting this war according to Barnes and Noble standards," implying that an introductory book available at Barnes and Noble does not provide adequate insight into the threat drivers of Salafi-Jihadist groups or an understanding the doctrinal writings that explain their violent actions.

Salafism in Lebanon

Oxford University Press

Ever since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, fighters from abroad have journeyed in ever-greater numbers to conflict zones in the Muslim world to defend Islam from-in their view- infidels and apostates. The phenomenon recently reached its apogee in Syria, where the foreign fighter

population quickly became larger and more diverse than in any previous conflict. In *Road Warriors*, Daniel Byman provides a sweeping history of the jihadist foreign fighter movement. He begins by chronicling the movement's birth in Afghanistan, its growing pains in Bosnia and Chechnya, and its emergence as a major source of terrorism in the West in the 1990s, culminating in the 9/11 attacks. Since that bloody day, the foreign fighter movement has seen major ups and downs. It rode high after the 2003 US invasion of Iraq, when the ultra-violent Al Qaeda in Iraq (AQI) attracted thousands of foreign fighters. AQI overreached, however, and suffered a crushing

defeat. Demonstrating the resilience of the movement, however, AQI reemerged anew during the Syrian civil war as the Islamic State, attracting tens of thousands of fighters from around the world and spawning the bloody 2015 attacks in Paris among hundreds of other strikes. Although casualty rates are usually high, the survivors of Afghanistan, Syria, and other fields of jihad often became skilled professional warriors, going from one war to the next. Still others returned to their home countries, some to peaceful retirement but a deadly few to conduct terrorist attacks. Over time, both the United States and Europe have learned to adapt.

Before 9/11, volunteers went to and fro to Afghanistan and other hotspots with little interference. Today, the United States and its allies have developed a global program to identify, arrest, and kill foreign fighters. Much remains to be done, however-jihadist ideas and networks are by now deeply embedded, even as groups such as Al Qaeda and the Islamic State rise and fall. And as Byman makes abundantly clear, the problem is not likely to go away any time soon.

A Quietist Jihadi

Cambridge University Press

Tawhid was a militant Islamist group which implemented Islamic law at gunpoint in the Lebanese city of Tripoli during the 1980s. In

retrospect, some have called it 'the first ISIS-style Emirate'. Drawing on two hundred interviews with Islamist fighters and their mortal enemies, as well as on a trove of new archival material, Raphaël Lefèvre provides a comprehensive account of this Islamist group. He shows how they featured religious ideologues determined to turn Lebanon into an Islamic Republic, yet also included Tripolitan rebels of all stripes, neighbourhood strongmen with scores to settle, local subalterns seeking social revenge as well as profit-driven gangsters, who each tried to steer Tawhid's exercise of violence to their advantage. Providing a detailed understanding of the

multi-faceted processes through which Tawhid emerged in 1982, implemented its 'Emirate' and suddenly collapsed in 1985, this is a story that shows how militant Islamist groups are impacted by their grand ideology as much as by local contexts - with crucial lessons for understanding social movements, rebel groups and terrorist organizations elsewhere too. *The Globalization of Martyrdom* Cambridge University Press Examines the status and evolution of al Qaeda and other Salafi-jihadists, and uses qualitative and quantitative data to assess whether this movement has strengthened. Analyzes U.S. strategic options

to counter al Qaeda and other terrorist groups."

ISIS Macmillan

Tunisia became one of the largest sources of foreign fighters for the Islamic State—even though the country stands out as a democratic bright spot of the Arab uprisings and despite the fact that it had very little history of terrorist violence within its borders prior to 2011. In *Your Sons Are at Your Service*, Aaron Y. Zelin uncovers the longer history of Tunisian involvement in the jihadi movement and offers an in-depth examination of the reasons why so many Tunisians became drawn to jihadism following the 2011 revolution. Zelin highlights the longer-term causes that

affected jihadi recruitment in Tunisia, including the prior history of Tunisians joining jihadi organizations and playing key roles in far-flung parts of the world over the past four decades. He contends that the jihadi group Ansar al-Sharia in Tunisia was able to take advantage of the universal prisoner amnesty, increased openness, and the lack of governmental policy toward it after the revolution. In turn, this provided space for greater recruitment and subsequent mobilization to fight abroad once the Tunisian government cracked down on the group in 2013. Zelin marshals cutting-edge empirical findings, extensive primary source research, and

on-the-ground fieldwork, including a variety of documents in Arabic going as far back as the 1980s and interviews with Ansar al-Sharia members and Tunisian fighters returning from Syria. The first book on the history of the Tunisian jihadi movement, *Your Sons Are at Your Service* is a meticulously researched account that challenges simplified views of jihadism's appeal and success.

Tribes and Global Jihadism BRILL

Salafism, comprised of fundamentalist Islamic movements whose adherents consider themselves the only "saved" sect of Islam, has been little studied, remains shrouded in misconceptions, and has provoked new

interest as Salafists have recently staked a claim to power in some Arab states while spearheading battles against "infidel" Arab regimes during recent rebellions in the Arab world. Robert G. Rabil examines the emergence and development of Salafism into a prominent religious movement in Lebanon, including the ideological and sociopolitical foundation that led to the three different schools of Salafism in Lebanon: quietist Salafists, Haraki (active) Salafists; and Salafi Jihadists. Emphasizing their manhaj (methodology) toward politics, the author surveys Salafists' ideological transformation from opponents to

supporters of political engagement. Their antagonism to Hezbollah, which they denounce as the party of Satan, has risen exponentially following the party's seizure of Beirut in 2008 and support of the tyrannical Syrian regime. Salafism in Lebanon also demonstrates how activists and jihadi Salafists, in response to the political weakness of Sunni leadership, have threatened regional and international security by endorsing violence and jihad. Drawing on field research trips, personal interviews, and Arabic primary sources, the book explores the relationship between the ideologies of the various schools of Salafism and their

praxis in relation to Lebanese politics. The book should interest students and scholars of Islamic movements, international affairs, politics and religion, and radical groups and terrorism.

Jihadi Culture

Cambridge University Press

DAILY TELEGRAPH,
ECONOMIST AND
INDEPENDENT BOOKS
OF THE YEAR

Throughout the 1990s a vast conflict was brewing. The storm broke on September 11th 2001. Since then much of the world has seen invasions, bombings, battles and riots. Hundreds of thousands of people have died. Jason Burke, a first-hand witness of many of the conflict's key moments, has written the definitive account of its course in

his acclaimed book *The 9/11 Wars*. At once investigation, reportage and contemporary history, *The 9/11 Wars* is an essential book for understanding the dangerous and unstable twenty-first century. Whether reporting on the riots in France or the attack on Mumbai, suicide bombers in Iraq or British troops fighting in Helmand, Jason Burke tells the story of a world that changed forever when the hijacked planes flew out of the brilliant blue sky above Manhattan on September 11th. Reviews: 'The best overview of the 9/11 decade so far in print' *Economist* 'A magisterial history of the last decade ... The long patient sentences of *The 9/11 Wars* are

suffused with the melancholy of a man who has learned a great deal from long exposure to atrocity and folly' Pankaj Mishra, *Guardian* 'The 9/11 Wars warrants great respect' *Metro* 'Pacy, well-researched, and packed with telling anecdotes, this book's strength is in its detailed, balanced overview ... At a time when there are more books out on terrorism than ever before ... this is likely to be among the best' *Sunday Telegraph* '[Burke] is one of the most respected and experienced foreign correspondents in the business ... A major authority on the politics and organisation of Islamic extremism and ... a talented writer with the rare gift of joining

effortless prose to
 challenging scholarship
 ... [The 9/11 Wars] is a
 magnificent
 achievement' Irish
 Times 'A reader
 wanting a more
 dispassionate survey of
 how 9/11, and the
 response to it, may
 have shaped parts of
 the world will do no
 better than invest in
 [this] brilliant book'
 David Aaronovitch, The
 Times 'This remarkably
 balanced, well-sourced
 and very well-written
 book ... will be turned
 to in the future ...
 [Burke] has
 demonstrated
 impressive expertise as
 a historian who has
 had the advantage of
 having been present
 on many of the
 battlefields he
 describes' Andrew
 Roberts, Evening
 Standard '[A] lucid,
 sane account ... taut,

careful reporting ...
 Remarkable' Scotsman
 'Potent ... journalism of
 a high order. Like all
 good reporters, Burke
 is something of a
 scholar, drawing
 meticulously on
 interview notes years
 old, and on extensive
 background reading.
 He excels, too, in
 describing the
 experiences of ordinary
 Muslims; such insights
 make this book
 essential for
 understanding the past
 decade' Sunday Times
 About the author: Jason
 Burke is the South Asia
 correspondent for the
 Guardian. He has
 reported around the
 world for both the
 Guardian and the
 Observer. He is the
 author of two other
 widely praised books,
 both published by
 Penguin: Al-Qaeda and
 On the Road to

Kandahar. He lives in New Delhi.

Salafism in Nigeria

Cambridge University Press

For decades, a new type of terrorism has been quietly gathering ranks in the world. America's ability to remain oblivious to these new movements ended on September 11, 2001. The Islamist fanatics in the global Salafi jihad (the violent, revivalist social movement of which al Qaeda is a part) target the West, but their operations mercilessly slaughter thousands of people of all races and religions throughout the world. Marc Sageman challenges conventional wisdom about terrorism, observing that the key to mounting an effective defense against future attacks

is a thorough understanding of the networks that allow these new terrorists to proliferate. Based on intensive study of biographical data on 172 participants in the jihad, *Understanding Terror Networks* gives us the first social explanation of the global wave of activity. Sageman traces its roots in Egypt, gestation in Afghanistan during the Soviet-Afghan war, exile in the Sudan, and growth of branches worldwide, including detailed accounts of life within the Hamburg and Montreal cells that planned attacks on the United States. U.S. government strategies to combat the jihad are based on the traditional reasons an individual was thought to turn to terrorism:

poverty, trauma, madness, and ignorance. Sageman refutes all these notions, showing that, for the vast majority of the mujahedin, social bonds predated ideological commitment, and it was these social networks that inspired alienated young Muslims to join the jihad. These men, isolated from the rest of society, were transformed into fanatics yearning for martyrdom and eager to kill. The tight bonds of family and friendship, paradoxically enhanced by the tenuous links between the cell groups (making it difficult for authorities to trace connections), contributed to the jihad movement's flexibility

and longevity. And although Sageman's systematic analysis highlights the crucial role the networks played in the terrorists' success, he states unequivocally that the level of commitment and choice to embrace violence were entirely their own.

Understanding Terror Networks combines Sageman's scrutiny of sources, personal acquaintance with Islamic fundamentalists, deep appreciation of history, and effective application of network theory, modeling, and forensic psychology. Sageman's unique research allows him to go beyond available academic studies, which are light on facts, and journalistic narratives, which are devoid of theory. The

result is a profound contribution to our understanding of the perpetrators of 9/11 that has practical implications for the war on terror.

Boko Haram W. W. Norton & Company Al-Qaida and Islamic State continue to captivate the world with their extreme violence. While much attention has been given to the operations and doctrines of jihadi groups, this is the first book to explore their culture. Using a wealth of primary sources, the authors examine what goes on inside these organizations and what daily life is like for the foot-soldiers. They show that Islamist militants have a rich aesthetic culture and do much more than fight and train. Life in a jihadi group is in fact

filled with poetry and music, and fighters spend time on surprising things like dream interpretation and weeping. Readers will discover an entirely new perspective on radical Islamists: that despite their reputation as macho men, they value humility, artistic sensitivity, and displays of emotion. Cultural practices are essential for understanding the jihadi worldview and may shed important new light on decision-making and recruitment processes in extremist groups. This original book will interest anyone in academia, government, or the general public who is intrigued by the appeal and resilience of the jihadi movement.

The Making of Salafism

Oxford University Press
Salafism in Jordan
debunks stereotypes

and presents the
diversity of Salafism on
a range of political and
ideological issues.