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## Electronic Jihad

Global jihad groups are increasingly venturing into cyberspace. Their use of the Internet for “typical” activities – communication, recruitment of operatives, fundraising, propagandizing, incitement to hatred and violence, intelligence gathering, and psychological warfare – is well-established. In recent years, global jihad and other terrorist organizations have begun to use cyberspace as a battleground for what they call “electronic jihad”, attacking the enemy by sabotaging its online infrastructure, using the information available to them from the virtual world to cause mayhem in the real world, and developing their own defensive capabilities against cyber-attack. Following is a selection of recent key acts of electronic jihad, and a brief overview of the key themes reflected in jihadist discourse and propaganda.

### Key Topics of Jihadist Discourse, October – December 2014<sup>1</sup>

#### *The Indian Subcontinent*

- During October-November 2014, Al-Qaeda focused its efforts on advocacy to the Muslim residents of the Indian subcontinent. Ahmad al-Faruq, the head of Al-Qaeda’s branch in the Indian subcontinent, accused the Pakistani regime of collaborating with the United States and of systematically killing religious clerics known for their support of the mujahideen. In light of this, he called on Muslims to sanctify war against the Pakistani regime. Another indication of this trend could be seen in the launch of a new English-language magazine, *Resurgence*, by Al-Qaeda. According to the editor, the magazine is designed to serve as a platform for promoting jihad against the regimes in the Indian subcontinent by, among other things, increasing maritime terrorist attacks against commercial vessels.

#### *The Islamic State*

- Against the backdrop of the US-led coalition offensive against the Islamic State (IS) in Iraq and Syria, the jihadist discourse denouncing the participating countries became even stronger. Sheikh Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of the IS, criticized the coalition offensive and

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<sup>1</sup> For a more thorough review of jihadist life on the Web, see the ICT’s Jihadi Website Monitoring Group’s Periodic reports, at <http://www.ict.org.il/ContentWorld.aspx?ID=21>

emphasized that it was a war doomed to fail. According to him, the IS continues to expand despite the failing war and is appending additional provinces and territories, like in North Africa. In addition, he declared that he accepts the oath of allegiance by various jihadist groups to the IS and called on Muslims to join the IS provinces closest to where they live. Meanwhile, the organization waged a psychological war against coalition forces by threatening to attack Western targets, such as those of the US and Britain, and by releasing statements saying that the war is doomed to fail.

The coalition's war even triggered angry responses from several Al-Qaeda branches, such as Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and the Al-Nusra Front in Syria, which expressed certainty in the war's failure and called on Muslims to resist the coalition forces. Jund al-Khilafa, a Salafi-jihadist organization in Algeria, threatened to execute a French citizen being held captive by the organization if France does not stop its war against members of the IS.

### ***Syria***

- The Al-Nusra Front, Al-Qaeda's affiliate in Syria, threatened to kill Lebanese soldiers being held captive by the organization. In order to spare their lives, the organization demanded that the Lebanese army lift its siege from the city of Tripoli and end its aggression against the local Sunni population.

### ***Arabian Peninsula***

- Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula intensified its publicity against the Houthis, a Shi'ite minority in Yemen, against the backdrop of the group's increasing power due to its cooperation with Iran.

### ***The Sinai Peninsula and Egypt***

- October-November 2014 saw an increase in operations by the Salafi-jihadist movement in the Sinai Peninsula and Egypt. The jihadist organization, Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, which operates in Sinai, swore allegiance to the IS and changed its name to the "Islamic State in the Sinai Province". Another organization called "Ajnad Misr", which operates in Egypt, announced the establishment of a media wing called "Al-Kinana", to be responsible for posting publicity

materials, including claims of responsibility for terrorist attacks against Egyptian security forces. In addition, the IS revealed a growing interest in the arena in light of the publication of a collection of tips for the mujahideen in Egypt by one of its members. He recommended bringing the battle against the infidels to Cairo and other large cities, such that Sinai will serve as the base from which they go out to war, attack government headquarters and offices, receive immigrants who came to wage jihad in the country and attack infidel groups like the Christians.

## Jihadist Propaganda

- On October 16, a fundraising campaign was launched on social networks under the heading, “Help the Mujahideen of Gaza”. The campaign was attributed to the Palestinian organization, “Al-Nasser Salah al-Deen Brigades - al-Tawhid Brigade”.<sup>2</sup> On December 12, 2014 a hashtag<sup>3</sup> for the campaign was created in order to further promote the fundraising campaign for the organization, under the name: “Hand in hand in order for us to help the mujahideen in Gaza”.<sup>4</sup>



<sup>2</sup>##لتواصل\_مع\_حملة\_مدد\_مجاهدي\_غزة

<sup>3</sup>A hashtag is a word or an unspaced phrase prefixed with the hash character (or number sign), #, to form a label. It is a type of metadata tag .

<sup>4</sup>##بدأ\_بيد\_لنكن\_المدد\_لمجاهدي\_غزة



Banner providing the contact details for giving a donation

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم  
وَمَا تَنْتَظِرُونَ إِلَّا الْغَنَاءَ مِنَ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَالْعَزِيزُ الْغَنِيُّ

يعلن حساب (مدد مجاهدي غزة) عن حملة  
تجهيز مجاهد بالعتاد

وهي على النحو التالي:

النوع	قيمة النوع الواحد
كلاشنكوف	\$ 1900
4 قنابل يدوية	\$ 14
4 مخازن فارغة	\$ 14
جعبة مجاهد قماش	\$ 28
120 طلقة كلاشنكوف	\$ 2.5

نحتاج عتاد لـ ١٠٠ مقاتل

للتواصل >>

@madd\_gaza madd\_gaza

إشراف: ألوية الناصر صلاح الدين لواء التوحيد  
@alweyachannel

Banner explaining how supplies and weapons will be purchased for the mujahideen in the Gaza Strip using donation money

## Defensive Tactics

- Fursan al-Nashr, a virtual workshop involved in publicity for the Islamic State, launched a series of publications in October 2014 titled, “Security of the Supporter” (*Amn al-Munasir*), explaining how to surf on an Android in a secure and anonymous way using TOR software. The series included four lessons, accompanied by videos, explaining how to safely and anonymously browse on an Android device by using TOR software.<sup>5</sup>



The banners of the two videos

- A Twitter account named “Security Tips”, which expresses support for the IS, published a series of three lessons on the topic of cyberspace titled, “Mujahid Security”. The first two lessons provided an introduction to the world of hacking.<sup>6</sup> The third lesson explained how to use the Windows, Mac and Linux operating systems on laptop and desktop computers.<sup>7</sup>



The logo for the “Mujahid Security” series

- At the end of October 2014, the veteran Hanein jihadist Web forum, which focuses mainly on the Iraqi arena, announced that it was ending its activities. According to the forum’s management, the reason for this step had to do with a fear of widening the rift among visitors

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<sup>5</sup>[https://twitter.com/eyes\\_of\\_nation/status/521745450656075776](https://twitter.com/eyes_of_nation/status/521745450656075776)  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkvkjkZAnGPjHILFaNDopCQ>  
<https://shamikh1.info/vb/showthread.php?t=227608> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BwEzuCMvSYg>

<sup>6</sup> <http://justpaste.it/hafv>; [http://justpaste.it/2nd\\_amnyat](http://justpaste.it/2nd_amnyat)

<sup>7</sup> [http://justpaste.it/3d\\_amnyat](http://justpaste.it/3d_amnyat)

concerning the question of loyalty to the IS or to Al-Qaeda. In addition, an IS activist warned the forum's public not to enter the Twitter account claiming to represent the Hanein Web forum or to click on the links posted on the account, claiming that there may be security issues.<sup>8</sup>

- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum noted that, in light of the Crusader coalition offensive against the IS, one must exercise precautions and safe surfing on the Internet. Therefore, it published software called CyberGhost VPN, designed to ensure anonymous browsing on the Internet.<sup>9</sup>



**A screenshot of the CyberGhost software**

- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum recommended using Viber and WhatsApp as a platform to publish news items regarding jihadist organizations in Egypt, including distributing publications concerning terrorist attacks and ideology. According to him, he had already been busy distributing news on the topic for several months and gained approximately 500 followers through Viber. He recommended expanding the framework for distributing jihadist materials via these platforms in order to reach tens of thousands of users. According to him, one user can distribute materials to 1,000-2,000 people per day, on average. He added that he had turned to the management of the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum and raised this issue to them but that he did not see the issue formally addressed. In response, the visitor

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<sup>8</sup> <https://twitter.com/ass/status/530725090862710784>

<sup>9</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb/showthread.php?t=230176>



recommended contacting him personally regarding expanding advocacy for jihadist organizations in Egypt.<sup>10</sup>



## Offensive Tactics

- An anonymous jihad activist on the social network, Twitter, who calls himself Suna al-Malahim (“Creators of the Wars”), declared the establishment of a hacker group called “The Islamic State Hacker Group”. According to him, the purpose of the group is to hack into the accounts of Shi’ite activists on social networks, such as Twitter and Facebook, and vandalize them.<sup>11</sup> The announcement (see photo below) was signed by the two founders of the group: Suna al-Malahim and Muhattim Jamajim al-Murtadin (“Smasher of Infidel Muslim Skulls”).<sup>12</sup> Members of the group posted a video to YouTube documenting how they hacked into several Facebook accounts belonging to Iraqi Shi’ite soldiers.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>10</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb/showthread.php?t=230365>

<sup>11</sup> [https://twitter.com/A\\_H\\_M\\_E\\_D\\_1/status/529762459880808448](https://twitter.com/A_H_M_E_D_1/status/529762459880808448). #فريق\_هكر\_الدولة\_الإسلامية.

<sup>12</sup> [https://twitter.com/A\\_H\\_M\\_E\\_D\\_1/status/530726479844233216](https://twitter.com/A_H_M_E_D_1/status/530726479844233216)  
<https://twitter.com/ass/status/530376255401500673>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRiXHhYwO-0&feature=youtu.be>





The photos show the Facebook accounts of Iraqi Shi'ite soldiers that were breached by the hacker group, according to a jihad activist



The announcement regarding the establishment of a hacker group serving the Islamic State

## Guiding

- Fursan al-Nashr, a virtual workshop involved in publicity for the Islamic State, launched a series of publications titled, "Al-Batar lil-Muntaj Course". The first two instructional videos covered how to install and use the Sony Vegas video-producing software.<sup>14</sup> The group itself published 'crack' to enable free use of the software.<sup>15</sup>



The banners of the two videos

<sup>14</sup> #دورة البتار للمونتاج

<sup>15</sup> <https://twitter.com/alnosrahalyama2/status/536881186472083456>

- A prominent visitor in the technical field on the Al-Minbar Al-I'jami Al-Jihadi Web forum published an announcement titled, "Are Internet Service Providers Tracking Users?" In the announcement, the writer discussed whether ISP's are cooperating with various governments around the world and providing them with information for tracking Muslims. First, the writer explained basic terms: Internet Service Provider (ISP) is the body through which all Internet surfing traffic passes. SSL encryption is an Internet traffic encryption program that is not widespread in Arab countries where there are no policies protecting users. In addition, the writer explained the law in the United States; under certain conditions, Internet providers must cooperate with the government but a court order is needed and it is illegal to keep private data for more than six months. The visitor even claimed that most American companies – including Google, Facebook and Yahoo – are nothing but an arm of American Intelligence agencies. The writer referred to laws in other countries as well, but explained that in all cases there is great confusion regarding ISP's cooperation with governments and that the matter is not transparent to the public.

According to the writer, the answer to the question raised is affirmative: governments are aided by ISP's in order to track users and they legislate laws that enable them to get information about Internet traffic for the purpose of investigation. The writer explained that ISP's have information about each and every action taken by a user: Web history, email use, file uploads to an FTP server, etc., and they keep data regarding visit time to various sites. The writer emphasized that every action performed by a user on the Internet can be used against him as long as he is not careful to encrypt his movements.<sup>16</sup>

- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum published correspondence in which he explained how to build systems to prevent transmission between mobile handsets.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb/showthread.php?t=62386>

<sup>17</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb/showthread.php?t=230201>



- A visitor to the Shumukh al-Islam jihadist Web forum published a series of online classes on how to upload propaganda materials to the 'archive' storage site.<sup>18</sup>



- A jihad activist uploaded to his Twitter account an explanation on using the 'rapidleech' Web site in order to post and share videos.<sup>19</sup>



<sup>18</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb/showthread.php?t=227297>

<sup>19</sup> [https://twitter.com/abu\\_osid/status/510782206902824960](https://twitter.com/abu_osid/status/510782206902824960)

- A Twitter user named Abu Khadija al-Muhajir, who is identified with the IS, published a guidebook on how to securely use the Internet titled, “Guide for the Supporter” (*Dalil al-Munasir*).

The writer claimed that one can hide information related to DNS, IP, MAC address, Serial Number of a hard drive in one of the following ways:<sup>20</sup>

- Creating fake email accounts on Google.<sup>21</sup>
- Camouflage the IP by using the CyberGhost VPN software.
- Ensure secure use of cell phones by using the Tor network.<sup>22</sup>
- An explanation on using the Tor network on unsecured Apple computers.<sup>23</sup>



“Guide for the Supporter”

- A prominent visitor to the Al-Minbar Al-Alami Al-Jihadi Web forum published a statement concerning the closure of Twitter accounts and the planting of malicious links. In the statement, the writer suggested taking several precautions that, according to him, would protect against attacks by Saudi hackers: do not open suspicious links, do not enter an email address on unknown Web sites, and when coming across a suspicious situation that looks like a breach – try to warn Muslims.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> <https://shamikh1.info/vb/showthread.php?t=227328>

<sup>21</sup> [https://justpaste.it/D3m\\_isis](https://justpaste.it/D3m_isis)

<sup>22</sup> [https://justpaste.it/Tor\\_is](https://justpaste.it/Tor_is)

<sup>23</sup> <http://justpaste.it/hg6u>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb/showthread.php?t=69722>



- The administrator of the Al-Jihad Al-Alami Web forum published an announcement regarding the transfer of messages via the forum in which he recommended protecting the security of forum members by sending messages via a private messaging interface, or any other interface, only using the Asrar Al-Mujahideen encryption software.<sup>25</sup>
- One of the administrators of the Al-Platform Media Web forum published a document titled, "Important Advice for Self-Defense and Computer Protection". The document described the various threats to computers, including viruses and spyware, as well as possible solutions such as anti-virus software, Firewall and Web surfing on a secure browser.<sup>26</sup>
- Al-Nusra Al-Yamaniyya, a group of jihad activists in Yemen that supports the IS, published on Twitter links to videos and guidebooks explaining how to use various software to produce PR videos and photos as part of a PR campaign for the IS. For example, it provided an explanation on how to use the Pinnacle Studio 15 HD software.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb/showthread.php?t=70116>

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.alplatformmedia.com/vb/showthread.php?t=73709>

<sup>27</sup> #دورة\_الأنصار\_في\_المونتاج



A banner titled, “The Second Course in a Montage for the Intermediate Level”

## Social Media

One of the central components of the Islamic State’s PR campaign is focused on intensive activity on social networks through the distribution of official messages, PR videos, audio clips, statements, etc., as well as through a concentrated effort to influence public opinion by, among other things, disrupting the discourse of groups or online initiatives on social networks that try to criticize the organization.

The following are several examples of this issue:

- In the beginning of October, IS activists created hashtags under the title: “Hīt under the Banner of the Caliphate”, “Hīt by the Islamic State” and “Liberated Hīt”. The correspondence was intended to raise the spirit of IS activists and to sow psychological fear among the Iraqi security forces in light of the occupation of Hīt, which is located in Al-Anbar Province in Iraq – 150 km. from Baghdad. For example, one activist explained that the city serves as an important strategic point for future conquests in Iraq.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>28</sup> #هيت\_بيد\_الدولة\_الإسلامية, #هيت\_تحت\_راية\_الخلافة, #هيت\_تتحرر





**A map posted by a member of the organization noting the location of Hīt**

- In another discussion, several members of the organization tried to incite Sunnis in Tripoli, Lebanon, to protest against the Lebanese army for its oppressive policies against the Sunni population in the country, especially in Tripoli. This discourse was focused on the hashtags, “Tripoli in Al-Sham in Angry Protest”, “Lebanon’s Muslim Revolution” and “Tripoli in Al-Sham Helping the Caliphate”, and gained momentum towards the end of October 2014. One activist noted that the Lebanese army was preventing Sunnis from moving from Lebanon to Syria in order to help in the fight against Bashar al-Assad’s security forces and, therefore, Sunnis must protest against this move.<sup>29</sup>



**The banner posted by an IS activist – at the bottom of the banner it reads: “Tripoli in Al-Sham in Angry Protest”**

<sup>29</sup> #طرابلس الشام تنفض, #ثورة لبنان المسلم, #طرابلس الشام تستنصر\_الخليفة



- Members of the organization made an effort to show that it has earned cross-border support by creating of various hashtags on the subject. On October 13, 2014, for example, the hashtag “Oath of Allegiance by Taliban-Pakistan Leaders to the Caliphate” was created. One activist write, “The Iraqis swore allegiance, the Syrians swore allegiance, the Libyans swore allegiance, the Nigerians swore allegiance, and the mujahideen in Yemen slandered [the organization].”<sup>30</sup> Later that month, the hashtag “Saad al Hunaiti Swore Allegiance to the Caliph” – referring to the former kadi of the Al-Nusra Front – was created.<sup>31</sup> In another hashtag, members of the organization called on the factions fighting in Libya to swear allegiance to the Caliph, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.<sup>32</sup> Another hashtag called on Muslims to emigrate to the caliphate in Libya and join the war of jihad against the enemies of Islam.<sup>33</sup> On November 7, 2014 the hashtag “Oath of Allegiance by 30 Kurdish Villages to the Caliph of the Muslims” was created.<sup>34</sup> Other hashtags that were created included: “Soldiers of Yemen Swear Allegiance to the Caliph”,<sup>35</sup> “Lions of the Arabian Peninsula Swear Allegiance to the Caliph”,<sup>36</sup> and “Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis Swears Allegiance to the Caliph”.<sup>37</sup>



A banner showing a former senior commander in the Taliban-Pakistan who swore allegiance to the IS

<sup>30</sup> #بَيْعَةُ قَادَةِ تَالِبَانَ بَاكِسْتَانِ لِلْخِلَافَةِ

<sup>31</sup> #سَعْدُ الْحَنِيطِي يَبَاعُ الْخَلِيفَةَ

<sup>32</sup> #دَعْوَةُ الْفَصَائِلِ اللَّيْبِيَّةِ لِبَيْعَةِ الْخَلِيفَةِ

<sup>33</sup> #دَعْوَةُ لِلْهَجْرَةِ إِلَى أَرْضِ الْخِلَافَةِ بَلِيْبِيَا

<sup>34</sup> #بَيْعَةُ 30 قَرْيَةٍ كُرْدِيَّةٍ لَخَلِيفَةِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ

<sup>35</sup> #جُنْدُ الْيَمَنِ تَبَاعُ الْخَلِيفَةَ

<sup>36</sup> #أَسْوَدُ الْجَزَائِرِ تَبَاعُ الْخَلِيفَةَ

<sup>37</sup> #نَصَارُ بَيْتِ الْمَقْدِسِ تَبَاعُ الْخَلِيفَةَ

- On October 17, 2014 the hashtag “First Jihadist Plane in History” was created. Members of the organization referred to a rumor according to which the IS had used a plane, and they praised the act. Several activists noted that if the rumor is true, it would better to use aircraft in order to bomb targets in the fields of Saudi Arabia. Another activist noted that the IS has several talented pilots who can be provided with planes from enemy bases and another activist tweeted that the IS had managed to take control of a MiG aircraft.<sup>38</sup>



The banner that was posted to Twitter with the caption “Islamic State Pilot”

- On October 21, 2014 it was published<sup>39</sup> on the Al-Akhbar Web site, in English, that a religious cleric in Saudi Arabia had recently ruled that the social network Twitter is a “source of lies”. Sheikh Abdul Aziz Āl Sheikh declared in a fatwa that a local television broadcast on October 20 had stated that “if used properly, it could be of real benefit but, unfortunately, it is used for trivial matters”, and therefore it serves as “a source of all evil and destruction” because “people flock to it thinking that it is a reliable source of information but it is a source of lies and untruths.”
- On October 25, 2014 an advocacy group called “The Shameful Actions of the Secular” (“Fadhaih al-Ulmaniyya”), which focuses on advocacy for the IS, launched an online PR campaign calling on Muslims in Tunisia to avenge the deaths of Tunisian martyrs who were

<sup>38</sup> #أول\_طيران\_جهادي\_في\_التاريخ\_#أول\_طلعة\_جوية\_للدولة\_الإسلامية

<sup>39</sup> <http://english.al-akhbar.com/content/saudi-mufti-twitter-source-all-evil>

killed by Tunisian security forces and to take action to free women from Tunisian prisons. In the framework of the campaign, the names of senior Tunisian government officials were suggested as targets for assassination due to their alleged involvement in the imprisonment and killing of women in the country.<sup>40</sup>



From left to right: a banner calling for the killing of Mohamed Ali Aroui, spokesman for the Tunisian Ministry of the Interior, due to his involvement in the killing and humiliation of Muslim women; a banner calling to avenge the deaths of Tunisian martyrs – produced by the "Al-Minhaj" media institution, which is involved in advocacy for the Islamic State.

- In the beginning of November 2014, activists from Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, which joined the IS and changed its name to the Islamic State in the Sinai Peninsula, waged a PR war on social networks against Egyptian activists who condemned the organization and its supporters. Members of the organization created the following hashtags: "Sinai is the Lions' Den of the Monotheists", "The Sinai Province is Expanding and Al-Sisi is Raging with Hysteria", "A Campaign to ban Al-Sisi's Pigs" – which included calls to act against the Egyptian army and its President, Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, for their crimes against the Sunnis.<sup>41</sup> On the other side, Egyptian activists supporting the regime created the following hashtags: "A Campaign to ban Daesh (referring to the IS) Activists on Twitter", "Sinai is a Graveyard for Terrorists", and "We are All the Egyptian Army". The Egyptian activists expressed solidarity with, and support for, the Egyptian army, they called for the publication of official documents from the Egyptian Ministry of Defense and the Egyptian Army lauding their triumphs in eradicating terror nests in the Sinai Peninsula, and they called for reporting to the Twitter management the existence of accounts belonging to the organization in order to shut them

<sup>40</sup> #النار لشهيدات تونس

<sup>41</sup> #حملة حظر خنازير السيسي, #سيناء عرين الموحدين, #ولاية سيناء تتمدد والسيسي يتخبط

down.<sup>42</sup>



**A banner posted by a jihad activist in which it states that Gamal Abdel Nasser and Abdel Fattah al-Sisi are Jews who ruled Egypt and fought against Muslims many times**

- In the beginning of November 2014, members of the IS created several hashtags concerning the importance of liberating the Arabian Peninsula from the Saudi regime by, among other things, calling on Muslims in the Saudi Kingdom to act against the regime. For example, the following hashtags were created: “Deployment of the Supporters in the Land of the Two Holy Places”,<sup>43</sup> “Operations by Supporters of the State in the Land of the Two Holy Places”,<sup>44</sup> “The Islamic State is Preparing to Liberate the Land of the Two Holy Places”,<sup>45</sup> and “The Islamic State Soon in the Arabian Peninsula”.<sup>46</sup>
- Against the backdrop of the published announcement by the Finance Bureau of the Islamic State during the first half of November 2014, regarding the minting of coins to be officially used in areas under the organization’s control, several hashtags were created on the topic, such as “Campaign to Get Rid of the US Dollar Currency” and “Casting a Special Currency for the Islamic State”. The discourse was mainly characterized by expressions of joy on the move and wishful thinking that it will cause damage to the global economy and to the finances of Muslim rulers. There were also anti-Semitic remarks that this move could weaken the Jews’ grip on the global economy.<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> #سيناء\_مقبرة\_الارهابيين, #كلنا\_الجيش\_المصري, #حملة\_حظر\_دواعش\_تويتر

<sup>43</sup> #استعداد\_الانصار\_في\_بلاد\_الحرمين

<sup>44</sup> #عمليات\_انصار\_الدولة\_ببلاد\_الحرمين

<sup>45</sup> #الدولة\_الاسلامية\_تتأهب\_لتحرير\_بلاد\_الحرمين

<sup>46</sup> #الدولة\_الاسلامية\_قريباً\_في\_جزيرة\_العرب

<sup>47</sup> #حملة\_التخلص\_من\_عملة\_الدولار\_الأمريكي



The Islamic State dinar

- The Islamic Emirate in Afghanistan declared the creation of official Twitter and Facebook accounts to serve as its official platforms: <https://twitter.com/alemara1arabic> and <https://www.facebook.com/IEA.ar2>.<sup>48</sup>



- On October 27, 2014 the Fursan al-Mashr virtual workshop, which is involved in publicity for the Islamic State, announced the reopening of its Twitter account for the fifth time after its previous accounts were closed by the Twitter management.<sup>49</sup>
- A visitor to the Al-Minbar Al-Alami Al-Jihadi Web forum published a guidebook designed to help identify fictitious Facebook pages created by security forces in order to track the mujahideen. The guidebook detailed several recommended precautions, including: beware of friend requests from people with whom you have no common friends, and check if the relevant account is active and shows regular activity or if the only activity apparent on the page is the addition of new friends.<sup>50</sup>

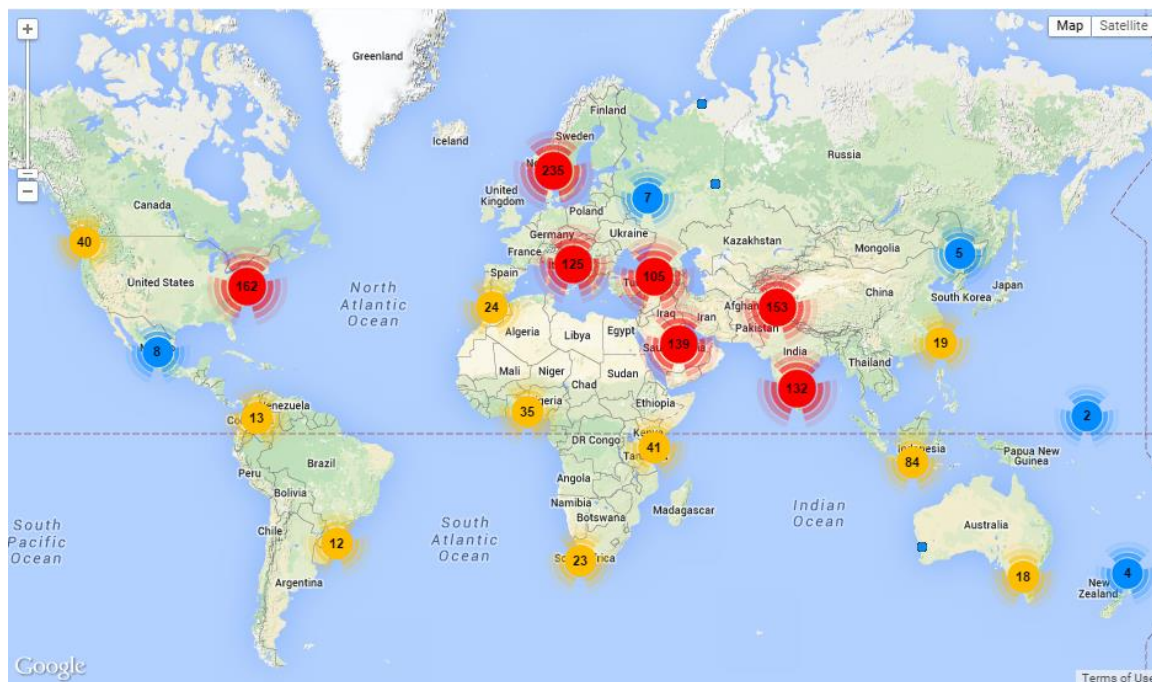
<sup>48</sup> <https://al-fidaa.com/vb/showthread.php?t=104225>

<sup>49</sup> [https://twitter.com/Forsan\\_N9](https://twitter.com/Forsan_N9)

<sup>50</sup> <http://alplatformmedia.com/vb/showthread.php?t=66517>



- In mid-December, Mehdi Masroor Biswas, a 24-year-old from Bangalore, India, who ran the Twitter account, ShamiWitness, was arrested.<sup>51</sup> The account published approximately 130,000 tweets, most of which were in praise of the IS. Mehdi was accused of spreading messages, recruiting and propaganda. An examination of his account activity showed that the account was created in 2009 and had approximately 18,000 followers. Mapping and analysis of some of the users who followed the account showed that the account was popular in the Middle East and in Britain.



<sup>51</sup> <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-30461455>