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Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 5 - Islamic State's Khorasan Province

Aka The Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham-Khorasan Province; the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria-Khorasan; Islamic State of Iraq and Levant in Khorasan Province; Islamic State Khurasan; ISISK; ISIS-K; IS-Khorasan; ISKP; IS-KP; ISIS Wilayat Khorasan; ISIL's South Asia Branch; South Asian Chapter of ISIL; ISIL Khorasan.

Description: Islamic State's Khorasan Province (ISIS-K) was designated as an FTO on January 14, 2016. The group is based in Afghanistan, conducts operations in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and is composed primarily of former members of Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan, the Afghan Taliban, and the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan. ISIS-K's senior leadership pledged allegiance to then-ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, which was accepted in 2015.

Activities: In 2020, ISIS-K claimed responsibility for an attack on a Sikh house of worship in Kabul that killed 25 worshipers and wounded 8 others. Also in 2020, ISIS-K claimed responsibility for an attack on a prison in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, that killed at least 29 people and injured more than 50 others and a suicide bombing outside an education center in Kabul that killed at least 18 people and injured at least 57 others.

In 2021, ISIS-K attacks increased following the U.S. military withdrawal from Afghanistan, including a suicide bombing against the Kabul airport as the United States and other governments conducted a large-scale evacuation of their citizens and vulnerable Afghans from the country. At least 185 people were killed in the attack, including 13 U.S. servicemembers supporting evacuation operations; at least another 150 people, including 18 U.S. servicemembers, were wounded. Also in 2021, ISIS-K claimed responsibility for multiple IED attacks in Jalalabad that killed

at least 35 Taliban members and three civilians; a suicide bombing of a mosque in Kunduz that killed at least 50 civilians and injured 143 others; a suicide bombing of a mosque in Kandahar that killed at least 47 civilians and injured at least 70 others; and an attack against a military hospital in Kabul that killed at least 20 people and injured dozens more.

In 2022, ISIS-K claimed responsibility for attacks conducted across Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, including a March suicide bombing of a mosque in Peshawar, Pakistan, that killed at least 60 civilians and injured 200 others; an April bombing at a mosque in Mazar-e Sharif, Afghanistan, that killed at least 12 people and wounded more than 90 others; an April attack on a bus in Kunduz, Afghanistan, that killed at least four persons and wounded 18; an April rocket attack against Uzbekistan; a May rocket attack against Tajikistan launched from Afghanistan; a June attack on a Sikh Temple in Kabul, Afghanistan, that killed two persons and wounded seven others; a September suicide bombing targeting the Russian Embassy in Kabul that killed at least six persons and wounded at least 10 others; and a December attack on the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul that injured one person.

Strength: ISIS-K is estimated to have about 2,000 fighters.

Location/Area of Operation: Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Central Asia.

Funding and External Aid: ISIS-K receives some funding from ISIS-core. Additional funds come from illicit criminal commerce, taxes, and extortion on the local population and businesses.

Associated documents

Document ID 2101641 Chapter

30 November 2023 | [USDOS – US Department of State](#) (Author)

Afghanistan

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

[Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 1 - Afghanistan](#)

(Periodical Report, English)

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Pakistan

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

[Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 1 - Pakistan](#) (Periodical Report, English)

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ecoi.net description:

Brief description of the Islamic State's Khorasan Province (Excerpt of chapter 5 of the country report on terrorism 2022)

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