

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	1520
Land:	Afghanistan
Kilde:	US Department of State
Titel:	Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 5 - Al-Qa'ida in the Indian Subcontinent
Udgivet:	30. november 2023
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	20. december 2023



Document #2101661

USDOS – US Department of State (Author)

Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 5 - Al-Qa'ida in the Indian Subcontinent

Aka al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent; Qaedat al-Jihad in the Indian Subcontinent.

Description: Al-Qa'ida in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) was designated as an FTO on July 1, 2016. Established in 2014, AQIS focuses on terrorist activity in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan. In 2019, Asim Umar, the former head of AQIS, was killed in a joint U.S.-Afghan military operation. Its current leader is Osama Mehmood.

Activities: In 2014, AQIS claimed responsibility for an attack on a naval dockyard in Karachi, Pakistan, in which militants attempted a hijacking of a Pakistani Navy frigate to attack nearby U.S. warships. AQIS also claimed attacks against human rights activists and secular writers in Bangladesh, including U.S. citizen Avijit Roy, Embassy Dhaka local employee Xulhaz Mannan, and Bangladeshi nationals Oyasiqur Rahman Babu, Ahmed Rajib Haideer, and A.K.M. Shafiul Islam. In 2017, AQAP called on AQIS to launch attacks on Burmese authorities because of Burma's policies toward Rohingya Muslims.

In 2020, India's National Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested 10 alleged al Qa'ida-affiliated operatives from Kerala and West Bengal. In 2021, NIA arrested five alleged AQIS operatives in Lucknow on charges of conspiring to conduct a terrorist attack in Uttar Pradesh. Also in 2021, AQIS released two propaganda videos specifically targeting audiences in India and Kashmir.

In June, AQIS threatened to conduct suicide bombings in several Indian cities.

Strength: AQIS is estimated to have between 200 and 400 members.

Location/Area of Operations: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan.

Funding and External Aid: AQIS likely receives funding from al-Qa'ida senior leadership and engages in general criminal activity, kidnapping, and extortion.

Associated documents

Document ID 2101661 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)

en

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Bangladesh

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

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

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India

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

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

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ID 2101562

Document ID 2101661 Chapter

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

Pakistan

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

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

en

ID 2101590

ecoi.net description:

Brief description of Al-Qa'ida in the Indian Subcontinent (Excerpt of chapter 5 of the country report on terrorism 2022)

Countries:

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan

Source:

[USDOS – US Department of State](#) (Author)

Original link:

https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2022/#report-toc_section-9

Document type:

Periodical Report

Language:

English

Published:

30 November 2023

Available on ecoi.net since:

4 December 2023

Austrian Red Cross	Wiedner Hauptstraße	Contact
Austrian Centre for	32, 1041 Wien	Imprint & Disclaimer
Country of Origin and	T +43 1 589 00 583	F.A.Q.
Asylum Research and	F +43 1 589 00 589	Data Protection Notice
Documentation	info@ecoi.net	
(ACCORD)		

ecoi.net is run by the Austrian Red Cross (department ACCORD) in cooperation with Informationsverbund Asyl & Migration. ecoi.net is funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Austrian Ministry of the Interior and Caritas Austria. ecoi.net is supported by ECRE & UNHCR.

