

USDOS – US Department of State

Country Report on Terrorism 2020 - Chapter 5 - Ansar al-Shari'a in Darnah (AAS-D)

Ansar al-Shari'a in Darnah

Aka Supporters of Islamic Law; Ansar al-Sharia in Derna; Ansar al-Sharia in Libya; Ansar al-Sharia; Ansar al-Sharia Brigade in Darnah

Description: Designated as an FTO on January 13, 2014, Ansar al-Shari'a in Darnah (AAS-D) was created after the 2011 fall of the Qadhafi regime in Libya. The group has been involved in terrorist attacks against civilian targets as well as the assassination and attempted assassination of security officials and political actors in eastern Libya.

Activities: Members of AAS-D were involved in the 2012 attacks against the U.S. Special Mission and Annex in Benghazi, Libya. Four U.S. citizens were killed in the attack: Glen Doherty, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and U.S. Ambassador to Libya J. Christopher Stevens.

Throughout 2013 and 2014, AAS-D was believed to have cooperated with Ansar al-Shari'a in Benghazi in multiple attacks and suicide bombings targeting Libyan security forces in that city. In 2016, AAS-D continued fighting in and around Darnah. Additionally, AAS-D maintained several terrorist training camps in Darnah and Jebel Akhdar, Libya, and trained members of other terrorist organizations operating in Iraq and Syria.

In 2018, there were unconfirmed reports that AAS-D was involved in clashes with the "Libyan National Army." AAS-D did not claim any attacks in 2020.

Strength: Precise numbers are unknown.

Location/Area of Operation: Darnah, Libya

Funding and External Aid: Sources of funding are unknown.

ecoi.net summary:

Brief description of the Ansar al-Shari'a in Darnah (Excerpt of chapter 5 of the country report on terrorism 2020)



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