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USDOS – US Department of State

Country Report on Terrorism 2019 - Chapter 5 - Ansar al-Shari’a in Tunisia (AAS-T)

Aka Al-Qayrawan Media Foundation; Supporters of Islamic Law; Ansar al-Sharia in Tunisia; Ansar al-Shari’ah; Ansar al-Shari’ah in Tunisia; Ansar al-Sharia

Description: Designated as an FTO on January 13, 2014, Ansar al-Shari’a in Tunisia (AAS-T) was founded in 2011 by Seif Allah Ben Hassine. AAS-T has been implicated in attacks against Tunisian security forces, assassinations of Tunisian political figures, and attempted suicide bombings of popular tourist locations. AAS-T has also recruited Tunisians to fight in Syria.

Activities: AAS-T was involved in the September 14, 2012, attack against the U.S. embassy and American school in Tunis, which threatened the safety of more than 100 U.S. embassy employees. In February and July 2013, AAS-T members were implicated in the assassination of Tunisian politicians Chokri Belaid and Mohamed Brahmi.

Since 2016, Tunisian authorities have continued to confront and arrest AAS-T members. AAS-T did not claim responsibility for any attacks in 2019.

Strength: Precise numbers are unknown.

Location/Area of Operation: Tunisia and Libya

Funding and External Aid: Sources of funding are unknown.

ecoi.net summary:

Brief description of the Ansar al-Shari’a in Tunisia (Excerpt of chapter 5 of the country report on terrorism 2019)

Countries:

Libya, Tunisia

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